VOLUME 28, NO. 5 NOV. 21, 1997

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NIAGARA NEWS

Search for student

By MARK TEMPLE
Staff Writer

A 20-year-old Niagara College student is being sought by Niagara Regional Police (NRP) for failing to appear in court.

He is one of three men charged with the September break-in and theft of nine computers from the college's Welland campus.

The Niagara Falls resident didn't appear in October to receive his preliminary trial date from a provincial court judge. A bench warrant has been issued for his arrest.

A 22-year-old Niagara Falls man and a 21-year-old London man, also charged with the break-in and thefts, received preliminary trial dates for Nov. 19 and Dec. 3 respectively.

On Sept. 2, a campus security officer surprised two thieves as they were stuffing gym bags with central processing units, the essential component of computers, worth about $1,200 each.

The two male intruders charged the security officer, knocking him to the floor, then ran in opposite directions.

The officer was unharmed and was later able to help the NRP identify the suspects.

On Sept. 18, members of the Welland Detective Services Unit of the NRP arrested the three men, who were subsequently released on conditions.

Child care expands services

By CHER CIRILLO
Staff Writer

The Niagara College Child Care Centre has extended its services by providing an afternoon school program for children six to 12 years of age.

The provincial Ministry of Community and Social Services has approved the extension of the centre's licence so it can accommodate these children and their families.

The program, which has been in effect since September, is "in the works," said Pat Eversden, manager of the Child Care Centre.

Currently, there are three children enrolled in the program, which can accommodate up to 15.

Because the government can not subsidize a payment plan, the centre has a set fee of $30 a week.

Buses are available from Quaker Road School and Alexander Kuska School in Welland. The buses will take the children from the school to the Child Care Centre. However, it is the responsibility of parents to make arrangements. Parents must arrange to have the children picked up from the centre at the end of the day.

The hours at the centre are from 7:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

PAT EVERSDEN

College participates in International Day

By BRADEN TANGUAY
Staff Writer

A student celebration of different cultures was marked at Niagara College's Maid of the Mist Centre for Hospitality and Tourism (MOMC) Tuesday in Niagara Falls.

The college's Aboriginal Education Access Office (AEAO) was asked to participate at this year's International Day.

International Day was a celebration of six different cultures who displayed their cultural traditions including song, dance and food.

Russ Blackbird, the college's aboriginal cultural promotion and outreach officer, participated in the celebration, performing a unique traditional native dance.

"What I performed was called grass dancing," Blackbird says. "This dance is based on a historical aspect. It comes from the natives on the plains who were nomadic, and when they moved, they sent out grass dancers to stamp down the grass to clear the area for their camps."

AEAO set up a variety of displays at the centre. "The displays we set up included art work, books on language, and many other aspects of aboriginal culture. Several native students prepared different types of food dishes for students to try."

Blackbird says International Day is good for everyone. "It tries to introduce positive aspects of different cultures. It shows the diversity of different peoples throughout the world. It was successful, and I think the student involvement is improving. I enjoyed the event."

International Day at the Maid of the Mist Centre featured an array of native dances from around the world. Here, Russ Blackbird, an instructor in the college's vocational program, performs a Canadian aboriginal grass dance.

Photo by Kevin Harding

Graduate survey

By CARRIE CHEHOWSKI
Staff Writer

The Career Employment Services department is mailing a survey out to graduates of Niagara College.

Janet Forfar, a career services officer here, says the questionnaire "is a standard survey about what our graduates are doing six months after (the April 1997) graduation."

The survey will be delivered over the phone or by mail to the 1,343 graduates. The graduates then mail the survey back to the college.

Forfar says a team composed of five volunteers from the Call Centre Management program "will be calling (graduates) until about mid-December."

She also says the statistics from the survey will be used for "research and planning. We also forward it to the Ministry of Education and they use it for the same thing, research."

Niagara College is not the only college sending surveys to graduates. Forfar says "all of the colleges are doing it at this time. We're not the only college involved."

Over 1,300 surveys have been mailed. Surveys done by phone and mail started on Nov.12.

Photo from front page

Preparing for a five-course meal, J. Mark Hand, chef de cuisine and Niagara College's food and beverage manager, and his Sous Chef, Sean Wales help first-year Culinary Skills program student Sameer Pruthee, serve Patterson's Young Greens with Gorgonzola and Pears in Walnut Oil Drizzle. It was a catering event in Niagara College's Kerrio Dining Roon on Saturday, Nov. 15 to a group of 50 members of the International Wine & Food Society, Niagara's Branch. See pages 13 and 14 for more stories and photos.

Photo by Sharon Whaling

EBSCOhost at LRC

By KAREN GELLATLY
Staff Writer

The Learning Resource Centre (LRC) at the Niagara College Welland campus has installed a new program called EBSCOhost on its computer stations.

EBSCOhost houses 1,000 periodicals, all specialized in the topics students are looking for.

"We would not have been able to do this without the support of the student council and the Technology Student Enhancement Fund," said Trish Labonte, 47, of Pelham, the manger of the LRC.

'It's really an efficient way to access information.' — Trish Labonte

"The administrators of the fund agreed to buy a subscription this year on our behalf."

EBSCOhost contains a master file in which there are 1,000 periodicals with an index and full texts. It runs similar to Netscape.

EBSCOhost does not contain illustrations, only text references and bibliography information. The text can be saved on a disk or printed out.

The journals are reviewed by universities and colleges, so students are "likely to get the right level of resources needed," she said.

EBSCOhost is a quick way to get very specific information.

Canadian magazine articles (CMAS) and periodicals can be emphasized.

The LRC is a part of a consortium of 18 Ontario colleges, who subscribed together for a discounted rate of $9,600 a college, instead of $16,000 a college.

That amount translates to about $9 a title.

"It is really an efficient way to access information," said Labonte.

EBSCOhost is on one computer at the Welland campus LRC and will be put onto the other stations within the next two weeks.

The program will soon be arriving at the St. Catharines campus, while the Maid of the Mist Centre in Niagara Falls will be upgraded to have programs such as CMAS available to students.

The Maid of the Mist Centre will have a specialized hospitality focus.

TRISH LABONTE

The LRC at the Welland campus is now open on Saturdays.

"We're very pleased to be able to provide extra hours to students," said Labonte.

The LRC is open Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. in addition to the regular hours of 8:15 a.m. to 4:45 p.m. weekdays. Any changes to these hours will be posted.

Review change

By DAVE BARNHARDT
Staff Writer

Too many programs, too little time.

Niagara College's Board of Governors is changing its approach to program reviews in order to see more of what's going on at the college.

The proposed change sparked concerns by several board members.

For the past 24 years, the board has invited representatives from individual programs to present an oral and written update on curriculum, enrolment, attrition and anticipated changes to their program.

A proposal to change the practice was presented to and passed by the board at its monthly meeting on Nov. 13.

The plan calls for the review of programs in "clusters," grouped by division, such as hospitality and tourism. The new schedule will see each "cluster" present to the board every two years instead of every three.

Scott Budgell, student representative for the board, expressed concerns that grouping would destroy the "individuality" felt by a given program's students.

He said because of the size of some divisions, two programs in the same division may be largely unrelated.

Board member Gary Webb said program staff may feel they're not getting enough "board recognition" if lumped together with an entire division.

Bonnie Rose, the college's vice-president academic, said programs may be lumped together by groups that make more sense than an entire division.

College President Dan Patterson said he wants "to ensure (the board) brings enough staff and students to discuss the programs (within the divisions)."

"I think we'll find them really helpful."

Changes in review policy will include a revised format for written reports, a refocusing of the oral presentation to long-term plans and an annual report on enrolment and placement statistics.

College host to leisure fair

By JENN WALKER
and DAN DAKIN
Staff Writers

Activities from football to tie dyeing were presented outside the Learning Resource Centre at Niagara College's Welland campus.

On Monday, Nov. 17, from 11 a.m. until 2 p.m., first-year students in the Recreation and Leisure Services program, at the Welland campus, set up displays to provide information on various recreational activities.

Students at all 35 of the booths had information handouts and many offered videos as well.

David Veres, an instructor in the program, said the two main purposes of the fair were to teach the 80 recreation students leadership and to teach the other college students about a variety of activities.

"You gain knowledge on other recreational activities you don't get to experience," said Adam Hendriks,18, of the Recreation and Leisure Services program.

Veres said last year's display was "very successful" with about 800 to 1,000 students visiting the booths.

Jen Carpenter, 19, a first-year Recreation and Leisure student, guards her judo presentation.

Photo By Mark Riehl

College delivers new course calendar

By JENNIFER COTE
Staff Writer

It's that time again.

The Continuing Education Department's new Winter 1998 course calendar will be delivered Nov. 18 to 154,000 homes in the region.

The term will start in early January.

Niagara College's Continuing Education's Fall '97 term "has been very successful," said Foster Zanutto, 50, the director of Continuing Education.

There were 6,897 total registrations, up 15 per cent from last year's 6,000 registrations.

Continuing Education course enrolment declined last year.

This year Ontario had only a three per cent gain in Continuing Education courses' enrolment.

"We're considerably higher than what's happening in the province," said Zanutto.

'We're considerably higher than what's happening in the province.' — Foster Zanutto

The Winter '98 term boasts 98 new courses and seminars, including credit, vocational and general interest courses.

Some of the courses being offered include Breastfeeding Challenges, Complete Personal Trainer program, Dining Room and Catering Management and Designer Fashions for Children.

There are also numerous seminars offered, such as Afterlife Beliefs, Antique Awareness, Defense Aerobics for Women, Foods That Make You Thin, Internet Safety, Victorian Floral Design and Seasonal Affective Disorder (S.A.D.) and the Winter Blahs.

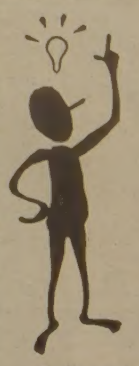
For more information, call or visit the Continuing Education office at 735-2211, Ext.#7523 or visit room 21 in the Hennepin building at the Welland campus.

Timelines

• On this day in 1906, United States President Theodore Roosevelt pledged American citizenship for the people of Puerto Rico. However, Congress would not pass the Jones Act making Puerto Rico American territory and its people citizens until March 2, 1917.

• On this day in 1974, bombs exploded in two pubs in Birmingham, England, killing 19 people and injuring 184 more. Authorities blamed the Irish Republican Army. It was the latest in a series of over 250 bombings in just two years in the British Isles.

• On this day in 1977, Egyptian President Anwar el-Sadat ended his visit to Israel by joining hands with Israeli Prime Minister Menachem Begin and pledging an end to hostilities between the two nations



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BEC NIAGARA

Niagara students lending a helping hand

By JENN WALKER
Staff Writer

The hands of many students will be helping a community organization in June.

The Many Hands Project is being organized by Niagara College staff and students as part of the Special Event Management (post-graduate) program.

"This program will provide students with hands-on experience in developing and operating a special event," said Dave Veres, Niagara College professor and project co-ordinator.

"At the same time, it will allow students, the college and the corporate community an opportunity to contribute to a healthier city."

Veres said anyone is welcome to volunteer.

"We're encouraging different programs to get involved because of their expertise."

Students and other volunteers will take part in a one-day event similar to Habitat for Humanity. They will help a non-profit organization by planning all aspects of the project as part of their curriculum.

'Anyone is welcome to volunteer.' —Dave Veres

This event will allow a large group of individuals and organizations to come together to demonstrate teamwork, commitment and co-operation, Veres said.

If an outdoor project is selected, the volunteers will likely be constructing the physical structure. If the project is in a building, they will either renovate, enhance or improve the structure.

Canadian Tire Acceptance in Welland has been secured as a lead sponsor and other organizations are being approached to help cover the costs of producing the event.

"Canadian Tire is pleased to work with Niagara College and their students in supporting the Many Hands Project," said Tom Gauld, president, Canadian Tire Acceptance Limited. "It is a great opportunity for both organizations to support our community and make Welland a better place to live."

Eligible agencies are submitting applications for the project. Selection of the project will be made by the Many Hands Project Advisory Committee.

Egyptian visitors experience Niagara

By RACHEL LEECH
Staff Writer

Niagara College has connections throughout the world — even in Egypt.

Representatives from Egypt visited Niagara for a seven-day trip to "see how businesses interact with the college," said Jos Nolle, 41, of Fonthill, the manager of International Education at the college's Welland campus.

Two Egyptian ministry of education representatives and two industry members came to Niagara to "improve the relations between education and industry in Egypt," said Nolle.

During their stay, the Egyptians "met with some of the companies that Niagara College is training for, like MYCOM and General Motors," Nolle said. "They wanted to see examples of how industry people are actively involved in education."

'The trip was a learning experience.' — Jos Nolle

The trip was a learning experience for the Egyptians, he added. "Their co-operation (between business and education) in Egypt is not what they want. They wanted to see examples of where it (works) better," said Nolle.

The Egyptian representatives will not be returning to Canada. Instead, three members of Niagara College will be travelling to Egypt next year to review Egypt's education methods.

Barbara Okanik and Heather Carter, two members of the Niagara College Innovation Centre, are candidates for the trip, while Bea Clark, director of college's Ventures Division, will be travelling to Egypt to explore the country's education system.

Students donate $1,575

By JEANNIE ORBAN
Staff Writer

Second-year Human Relations program students donated $1,575 to the United Way of Niagara South on Nov. 5.

The students were divided into eight groups and asked to organize various activities and events to raise money in October.

Students donated $1,575 to the United Way.

The events included bake sales, raffles, draws, pub nights and fun fairs. There was also a Mr. and Miss Niagara contest held at the pub. An umbrella service walked people to and from their cars and classes, but unfortunately, it rained only two days in October.

One person from the class said "students were really generous."

The money was presented to Brian Blowes, board member and past general campaign chair of the United Way of Niagara South.

Bev Brown, co-ordinator of the Human Relations and Child and Youth Worker program, said the group raised $980 last year.

The Student Administative Council (SAC) was also in the spirit of giving.

Tiffany Fox, SAC's vice-president of external affairs, presented $250 to Trish Labonte, co-chair of the United Way of Niagara South. The donation was made on behalf of Niagara College students. The presentation took place Oct. 31.

The college campaign hasn't much time left to meet the goal of $16,500. Pledges so far have totalled $14,749. The student participation is expected to put the college "over the top."

At the seventh week mark of the United Way's campaign, 55 per cent of the goal had been reached.

1,000 campus kits for Niagara students

By DAVE CONROY
Staff Writer

The Niagara College Campus Store gave away 1,000 campus kits to students on Nov. 10.

A United Way penny pot was put near the cash register in the Campus Store to hold the donations as the students picked up their campus kits.

"The students were enthusiastic, to say the least," said Marilyn Hynes, retail manager of the Campus Store.

A "surprising" $271 was placed in the penny pot by the end of the day, with proceeds going to the United Way.

Hynes said the students this year are a happy lot.

"We were asking for pennies and they were putting in loonies and toonies," said Hynes, adding out of 1,000 students only one complained about giving a donation.

The campus pack consisted of hygiene products students would need on a daily basis and gift certificates, snacks and postcards.

The students this year are a happy lot. — Marilyn Hynes

"We would like to thank the students for their help," said Hynes.

And the winners are. . .

Molson mountain bike winner Wayne Ranyer (left), 42, of Grimsby, a Mechanical Engineering program student, stands with Glenda Turner, bar supervisor at After Hours, and Waterloo Dark jacket winner Noel Vandepoele, 20, of Woodstock, a Law and Security Administration program student.

Photo by Tracy Jay

Clean-up under way

By KATHLEEN McARTHUR
Staff Writer

Students in the Ecosystem Restoration program will help with the clean-up of one of St. Catharines' beaches.

Al Unwin, co-ordinator of the post-graduate program, approached St. Catharines city council on Oct. 14 to propose the program investigate the cleaning of Jones Beach.

The post-graduate Ecosystem Restoration program will be working with the city on the project.

Pauline Brestvan-Kempen, 24, of St. Catharines, said, "Our group (Julie Piedovich and Kim Makela) will investigate, study and offer possible solutions on cleaning the beach to the city."

The beach, which has a permanent "No Swimming sign," is in a cove that is a perfect breeding ground for algae. The water is shallow with a weak flow of water which tends to let the pollution linger on the shore longer. The combination of the sun beating down on the water where the algae grows causes an almost unbearable odor.

In the report to St. Catharines council, the budget for the twice-weekly cleaning and maintenance of Jones Beach will be $18,000 for 1998. This amount will allow for an on-site contract or to control the algae better because of early detection.

It was concluded that an earlier start to remove the algae would be cost effective.

The report also stated that in previous years, the algae on the shore was removed by a bulldozer and spread on local fields. This method is costly and was environmentally unacceptable. The process also removed sand and stone from the beach.

The city also added to the regular cleaning contract for Lakeside and Municipal beaches, one additional cleaning-day prior to the July 1 weekend, the August Civic Holiday, and Labour Day weekends.

Lasting friendship across the world

Kiho Hyeon, 26, left, and Sang Gyun, 26, are studying the English as a Second Language program at Niagara College. They are old friends from university in Korea.

Photo by Minako Yamaguchi

By MINAKO YAMAGUCHI
Staff Writer

Two Korean old friends took different routes but ended up studying in Canada together.

Kiho Hyeon, 26, and Sang Gyun Kim, 26, who were classmates at the same university in Seoul, Korea, are studying in the English as a Second Language (ESL) program at Niagara College.

After entering university in 1990, the two met in the same major — French literature.

Hyeon says he's always liked literature, reading books and the French language.

"There was a nice (female) teacher, who taught French in my high school," says Hyeon, adding he liked her and it could be one of the reasons he became more interested in French.

"When I was in high school, I always wanted to go to France to study restoration," says Kim, adding he thought France was the best place to study the subject.

"I enjoyed studying French literature at the university," says Kim.

However, Hyeon and Kim spent only the first year together at university.

Kim joined the country's military service after he finished his first year, and Hyeon joined the military, which is their "obligation," in 1993.

In 1995, after graduation from university, Kim went to Paris, France, and studied the restoration of oil paintings for about 16 months.

"It was very interesting but hard because I studied the history of art, painting material, colors and chemicals in the French language," says Kim, adding he found French restoration "very traditional." He says he tries to visit the United States to learn more about American restoration techniques.

He says he chose Canada to study English, so he came to Welland last June.

Last January, Hyeon went to France to study French and lived in Montpellier, near the Mediterranean, for six months.

Hyeon says he liked living there "very much."

"There is a big square called 'La place de la comédie.' I always visited there and met many people."

Hyeon says he met many people from other countries at the school he attended to learn French.

"But, after school, many people spoke English, and I realized I needed to speak English."

During the summer vacation of the French school, he went to London for two months. He enjoyed the experience, he says.

Hyeon says he changed his mind while in England and decided to study English.

The two said they talked on the telephone when Hyeon was in London. Kim advised Hyeon to come to Canada and study English at Niagara.

"Also, I wanted to see another country," says Hyeon, adding he was "very surprised" at this "huge" country when he arrived last August.

Kim says he likes Niagara and the ESL program, but Welland "has problems" with its transportation system.

The two say they enjoy playing basketball with other people every Saturday at the college's gym.

Hyeon says people in Welland are "nice."

He says when Hay Hee Yeom, 19, of Korea, an ESL student, was hit by a car and taken to the hospital on Oct. 31, there were many people to take care of her.

"If (Welland) was such a big city, there wouldn't be people around her (to help)."

Hyeon says he will go back to Korea this February to finish his last year at university. He says he hopes he can get a job in the field of international trade or tourism because "I always like travelling, meeting people and learning languages."

Kim says studying restoration in the U.S. is where he sees his future.

The two say they would be "bored" if they didn't have each other at Niagara.

"We always help each other to study English and talk about something important, such as world politics or the Korean economy," says Hyeon.

"I enjoy living in Canada because we are together," says Kim.

Niagara to welcome Jordan

By KATHLEEN McARTHUR
Staff Writer

A reciprocal visit is being planned between educators of Jordan in the Middle East and Niagara College.

Niagara College administrators will be sharing their wealth of knowledge about the organization of Ontario colleges and the internal workings of Niagara.

A five-member delegation of heads of colleges from Jordan will be investigating the Canadian college system from Dec. 6 through Dec. 12.

"The team wants to establish the framework for their own strategic and operations management plan," said Alison Ortwein, international projects co-ordinator.

The mission is intended to assist the deans from Jordan in establishing goals for the waste water treatment program and to develop a conceptual model for a Centre of Excellence, such as Niagara's Centre for Environmental Training.

The deans scheduled to visit are Eng. Mazhar Jueihan, head of the computer science department of Al-Salt College, Dr. Hussein Sarhan, dean of Al-Husn Polytechnic, Dr. Muhammed Alia, dean of Amman University College and Dr. Musa Resheidat, dean of applied engineering at Al-Balqa' Applied University.

While details of the visit are being finalized and speakers are being confirmed, tours of companies in the Niagara Region are also being planned. Areas of interest will include the environment and the information technology needed to overhaul the college system in Jordan.

The delegation will visit Fanshawe College in London, Ont., and Comoson College in Victoria, B.C., until Dec. 20.

The visit follows a similar tour Canadian host colleges' members made earlier this year.

We can talk over lunch

By MINAKO YAMAGUCHI
Staff Writer

It's an exchange program which is getting high marks.

The English as a Second (ESL) program offers Niagara College students an opportunity for conversational exhanges with international students.

Ryuichi Yano, 20, of Japan, not only studies in the ESL program at the college, but says he enjoys meeting and talking with Canadian-born students.

Ryuichi Yano, 20, of Japan, an English as a Second Language program student, holding a Canadian flag, enjoys talking with Yoni Levanoni, 19, of St. Catharines, a first-year Computer Engineering Technology program student, holding a Japanese flag.

Photo by Minako Yamaguchi

Yano says he enjoys talking with his conversation partner, Yoni Levanoni, 19, of St. Catharines, a first-year Computer Engineering Technology program student.

Levanoni says Yano is a "nice guy."

"We talk about anything, Japan, Korea, Canada, sports and computers. I really enjoy it," says Lavanoni.

They see each other once or twice a week during lunch.

"I like talking with Yoni a lot," says Yano, adding he has learned slang words and about Canadian culture.

Levanoni says he decided to participate in the conversational exchange because he wanted to help others at the college and learn more about other cultures.

Carolyn Ambrose, interim co-ordinator of the Intensive ESL program, says she's heard some students had problems on occasion, but they seem to "enjoy" themselves.

"It's good to see people who have the same interests," says Ambrose.

"I hope I will get an international job, so English is a good language for me to study," says Yano.

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Touring Hungary with great pride

Educational reform

By PAUL BASWICK
Staff Writer

Niagara College and Hungarian educators have met to draft a blueprint for educational reform in Budapest.

In a two-week tour of Hungarian post-secondary schools, Niagara College President Dan Patterson met university heads to discuss the joint development of a two-year vocational program in the area of human resources management.

"My goal was to meet with senior members within those organizations to explain the value partnerships (between schools) make in assisting students and clients."

Patterson said he presented Niagara College's three-year business Business Administration program as a model of "effective" human resources management.

In addition to proposing collaboration on the two-year program, Patterson spoke directly to Laszlo Csizmadia, director of Budapest's College of Commerce, Catering and Tourism, about the potential for future student exchanges between the two colleges' Hospitality and Tourism programs.

"The challenge will be for them to identify bursaries or scholarships," said Patterson.

"It will cost $9,000 for them to bring a student over. They have difficulty with that kind of money."

Patterson said a possible solution to financial obstacles would be to seek assistance from Welland's Hungarian community.

"We thought it would be interesting to see if anybody in the Hungarian community would be interested in sponsoring a student. We'll be in contact with them."

Of the time spent abroad, Oct. 26 to Nov. 6, Patterson said touring gave him "greater pride in our own institutions and greater pride in the region."

Welland's first big snowfall

By JEFF SCHELHAS
Staff Writer

You are now in the Great White North.

The first snow of this winter fell early in the morning on Nov. 12, leaving about three centimetres on the ground, but the snow didn't disturb the everyday life of the students at Niagara College.

David Moore, 21, a second-year Business Administration student, said, "I think this storm is just a warning to what is coming this winter."

Late in the night on Nov. 13 the first heavy snow came tumbling to the ground leaving 15 cm to 20 cm of snow in some areas of the Niagara Region.

Sean Coote, 25, an international student adviser, said, "It's nice we had no slush, but it pisses me off that I have to clean off my car."

Another snowfall expected during the afternoon of Nov. 16 was predicted to be another 23 cm.

Michael Berry, 23, a second-year Mechanical Engineering student, said, "I think the snow is good. The sooner I get to ski the better!"

A Niagara College student heads to class at the Welland campus as the first snowfall of the year hints that winter is on its way.

Photo by Dave Barnhardt

Celebrating students

By MARK RIEHL
Staff Writer

Prepare for a night of films.

The first annual Niagara College Student Film Festival will be held at After Hours on Nov. 22.

A fine selection of student film work from film program alumni will begin at 7:30 p.m.

"I want to showcase the talents of Niagara College film students so that students and especially the public can experience what we do," said Sam Osbourne, 23, of Belleville, Ont., a third-year Broadcasting Radio, Television and Film program student.

One feature will be the Telefest Award-winning film *Glass*, by Josh Grant, Mark Dosman and Aaron Smith. This is a documentary about the artistic and practical use of glass.

The film won the Best Cinematography Award and third place in the documentary category at the 1997 Telefest Awards.

Other films to be featured include *Newfoundland: Coming or Going*? a second-place documentary winner; *The Absolution*, best drama; and *The Night the Aliens Landed*, best drama and overall production.

Paper Angel; Blue Rodeo: Another Night, Another Town, Another Show; and What is a Canadian, Eh?, will, also be presented.

There will be opportunities to speak to the film directors and producers about their films during the night.

The Dan Kozar Jazz Trio will play before and after the screenings.

Admission to the celebration of Niagara College students' cinematic achievements will cost $2 at the door. All proceeds will help fund current projects by third-year film students.

Generosity found in principals

At the Niagara College Board of Governors' meeting on Nov. 13, six visiting principals from Indonesia stand in front of a wall displaying gifts they presented to the board. Shown are, at back James Modouw, 38; at front, from left, Titus Samino, 43, Siti Sahari Bunga, 42, Hj Siti Asiah, 66, Salami, 57, and Rismapita Saragih, 38, all representing schools in Indonesia.

Photo by Dave Barnhardt

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PERSONALITY

Calling All Bands! Book Your Spot In *"Riding the Riff"*

Gleddie races to volunteer at Niagara

By DAVE CONROY
Staff Writer

Martha Gleddie is one of Niagara College's prize individuals.

As special events/alumni co-ordinator for the Niagara College Foundation, Gleddie knows all about volunteer work.

"Volunteers are the most important part of running events," she says.

Gleddie not only found her job through volunteer work, but compliments other volunteers in her favorite pastimes — duathalons and half-marathons.

Gleddie has a Recreation Leadership diploma from Centennial College in Toronto and is enrolled in a Gerontology post-diploma course in the college's Continuing Education program.

A mother of two daughters, Gleddie worked at home for the first 10 years of her daughters' lives, doing volunteer work at Linhaven Regional Nursing Home in St. Catharines. She then volunteered her time at Niagara College's Alumni Association.

"I volunteered time for three or four months and something became available," she said.

'Volunteers are the most important part of running events.'
— Martha Gleddie

MARTHA GLEDDIE

Holding the position of special events co-ordinator has its pressures as well as its rewards, she says. "Sometimes organizing events like the Alumni Seafood and Wine Extravaganza brings pressure . . . It's a 310-person dinner and everything has to be right. If something goes wrong it's your fault."

'I really have to focus on how I'm going to train.'
— Martha Gleddie

Gleddie may save her best work for summer duathalons. "When I'm doing them, I really have to focus on how I'm going to train. I couldn't do what I do if I didn't have the support of my husband and my two girls because it takes an awful lot of time."

Gleddie works out seven days a week to prepare for three summer duathalons with a few five-kilometre runs in between. The duathalons consist of a lengthy run and cycle race. "I like the feeling you get when you complete it and you work hard to complete it."

On Oct. 27 in Niagara Falls, Gleddie finished her first half-marathon. The race had 1,500 competitors and she ran 13.1 miles. "There again you have your volunteer support base. They come and they volunteer and they help out."

Collins achieves victory at poll in seventh electoral contest

By JONATHON NARVEY
Staff Writer

The election is over and Mike Collins is back where he wants to be.

Collins, 53, of St. Catharines, an English professor at Niagara College, is returning to Niagara Region council. He won in the Nov. 10 municipal election.

"I'm delighted with the result," he said. "I have public support."

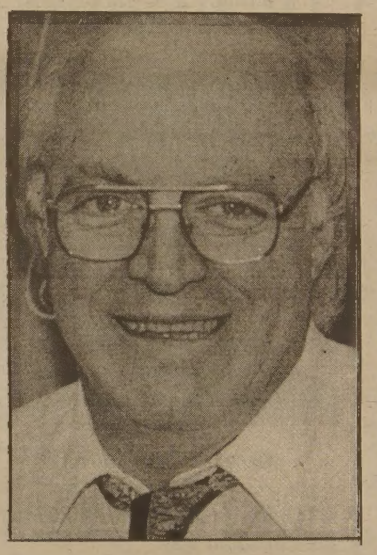
Collins received more than 15,000 votes, enough for him to place third.

The six most popular candidates will sit on regional council.

This was his seventh electoral victory, and his fourth for the region.

His campaign platform included a pledge to challenge extravagant spending proposals, support effective police services and ensure safe drinking water for the community.

"I am especially concerned with supporting police to curb robberies and drug dealers," Collins said.



MIKE COLLINS

Collins did not use signs in his campaign because "they pollute boulevards. Voters are highly informed."

"You can't bamboozle them," he added.

Collins said people who really want to help the community should volunteer to help the disadvantaged.

"I've worked in soup kitchens, helping the disadvantaged. I'm one of the luckiest people to be in Canada working as a teacher. We live in a wonderful country, but we still have a lot of problems."

He broke into politics as a volunteer for the New Democratic Party in 1968, the same year he began teaching at the college. He has participated in 20 campaigns.

Collins is a longtime Niagara Region councillor, who three years ago won a seat on St. Catharines city council.

About five years ago, Collins switched support to the Liberal Party out of "admiration for Jim Bradley," a longtime Liberal St. Catharines MPP.

"If I could achieve five per cent of what Jim has achieved in terms of serving the community, I would be happy," Collins said.

Joy of cooking leads student to college's culinary training

By A.J. JEFFREY
Staff Writer

Finding a college that appeals to you and your needs is very important. Niagara College looks appealing to one indecisive student.

Scott Goodbrand, 19, of St. Catharines, is a graduate of Merritton High School, and believes he has finally made a decision about college.

"I graduated and didn't know what I wanted to do, so I took a year off to work," said Goodbrand. He has worked full time as a cook at Lina Linguinis restaurant in St. Catharines.

"I've really enjoyed cooking, which has helped me make my decision," said Goodbrand. "Goody," as his friends call him, will be enrolling in the Culinary Skills program in September.

"My friend Chris is in that class and said it was good, and when he took me to see the campus I really liked it."

Goodbrand said he also likes the fact he won't have to move away to go to school, and can continue working.

"I was looking at tons of colleges and courses, but I really didn't want to move away from home and leave my family, friends and work," said Goodbrand.

He said he hopes to become a certified chef after his studies at Niagara.

"I really enjoy cooking, and it is something that I would like to continue to do."

91 per cent ERSN graduates find jobs

By CRYSTAL OLDER
Staff Writer

The past three years have been great for the Educational Resources and Special Needs (ERSN) program at Niagara College as enrolment has doubled.

Enrolment was 88 full-time September students in 1995. The program now has 166 full-time September and January-Start students.

Pat Frank, 51, of Welland, ERSN program co-ordinator, says, "We have a very supportive faculty and program assistant. They help to make the program run smoothly."

The professors include Carmel Constantini, Theo Dagenais, Debbie DelGiacco and Carol Domenicucci, who is a graduate and ERSN program assistant.

They all help in the program's success, says Frank, who has worked at the college since 1979. She began as a part-time instructor teaching three hours a week, along with her full-time job as a mother. In 1987, she was offered a full-time position as a professor at the college.

"I was an elementary school teacher and a mother before I came to work full time at the college," she says.

Frank has been co-ordinator of the program since 1995, when many of the program professors left for retirement or other personal reasons.

PAT FRANK

The two-year program has "a high success rate." In 1995, 91 per cent of "our graduates received jobs — and 87 per cent in their field — after graduating."

Some students get jobs because of the experience they got during their four work terms.

The program consists of courses in psychology, sociology, pharmacology, personal care, and a certified program in non-violent crisis intervention.

If you have praise or criticism for what we print, we want to hear from you!
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EDITORIAL

Niagara News

The Niagara News is a practical lab for the **Journalism-Print program, covering the college community and other areas of interest. Opinions expressed are not necessarily those of the management of the Niagara News or the administration of Niagara College. P.O. Box 1005, 300 Woodlawn Rd., Ontario L3B 5S2. Phone (905) 735-2211/ 688-1380/ 384-9760/ 382-2383/ FAX (905) 735-8112.**

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The power of words

One must write, speak, and think clearly to survive in today's society.

Everything in life is based on how we communicate with others. The challenge is to communicate effectively and to be understood correctly.

The dictionary defines political correctness as "an avoidance of expressions or actions to be considered discriminatory or pejorative to any minority."

The focus of communicating effectively is not concerning yourself with whether or not you are being politically correct.

An excellent example is "manhole cover," which sounds more eloquent than the alternative "sewer cover." Should we have to change the way we have referred to things because of the 1990s "correct" language?

Within the boundaries of today's society, we have used the English language as yet another tool to enforce equality. Language is simply a communications channel, but it should not be an excuse for addressing women's problems with men.

The use of gender-inclusive language and artificial words to replace traditional ones clouds our way of thinking. It paints an unclear visual image.

Reverse stereotypes are generated from the attempt to create a balance between proper English and fad words which make sentences sound completely inappropriate. To communicate effectively is to achieve a mutual understanding, a common ground — not to confuse or muddle.

The use of female variants increases one's credibility in effective communication.

It is virtually impossible to state an opinion if all our time is wasted concerning ourselves with political correctness.

Being politically correct is not even politically correct. The intention of political correctness is good, but the implementation is poor.

Sharon Whaling

Living with Hussein

Everyone is talking about it.

Anywhere you look, you can read about it.

All over the newspapers and on the Internet people are giving their solutions to the latest problems with Iraq's President Sadam Hussein.

Hussein is refusing to co-operate with the United Nations' weapons inspectors, and is manufacturing and concealing chemical and biological weapons as well as facilities for building and delivering nuclear weapons.

People worldwide are entertaining the idea of Hussein's death by assassination no matter how it is arranged.

There is said to be a possibility of an American attack, not just to punish Hussein, but to kill him, and anyone else getting in the way.

It is said in many governmental private circles that former president George Bush should have allowed UN forces to pursue and kill Hussein at the end of the Persian Gulf War.

Why is war the answer to this problem?

War doesn't solve problems, but rather creates them.

How can we say in one instance we should kill someone and in the next instance say we want world peace?

We cannot create war in an attempt to obtain world peace.

We can't have it both ways.

Kerri Wood

Prognosis negative

By ANDREW HALL
Staff Writer

The public and high school teacher protest is over and the students are back to school, but is everyone really happy?

Some students do not believe the teachers accomplished anything in their political protest.

Stacy Lohr, 18, a student at Laura Secord Secondary School in St. Catharines, said "No, I think it was a waste of time."

"They might have if they had stuck with it (the protest)," she added.

Mike Longley, 17, a student at Laura Secord Secondary School, had a slightly different view of the protest. "They realized that they were not going to accomplish anything so they gave up."

"I think they just did it (chose to end the protest) for the statement," he said.

Bill Jurgenson, who has been a teacher for 29 years, was much more positive about the outcome of the protest: "I think if nothing else there is a more educated public on what Bill 160 entails."

Jurgenson said he believes the protest was called off because "they (the teachers) wanted to prove they weren't blockheads."

He said he was not pleased with the lack of support shown by the students in the province. "Although it may not have affected them directly, the students have to understand that the protest was for the future."

Missy Hipwell, 18, of St. Catharines, said she believes "they (the teachers) sold out."

However, teachers like Jurgenson said he thinks there is still a chance for achievement through another protest. "If private and public unions take up the challenge together we will join them," he added.

Typically Canadian

By ALEX HALMAI
Staff Writer

Ontario's teachers are protesting the Canadian way.

With Ontario's 126,000 elementary and secondary school teachers off the picket lines and back in the classrooms, the only surprise seems to be that their walk-out in protest of bill 160 lasted an entire two weeks.

The longest teachers' protest in Canadian history managed to accomplish very little in the way of amendments to a bill that will see a major overhaul of Ontario's school systems, moving much of the control over education out of the hands of local school boards, and to the provincial government.

The endless determination on the part of the teachers showed yet again that Canadians will carry on a long-standing tradition that seems to be a Canadian characteristic: to turn the other cheek when hit with legislation we don't like.

If your goal is to stage a successful strike, a fight-until-the-end mentality (or at least some solidarity until you begin to make some major progress) is essential if you want to be taken seriously. The Tories are the very model of this mentality.

If the teachers display the same kind of lack of dedication and unity they showed during their walk-out, the Harris government will find the second phase of their protest little to worry about.

Bill 160 will be passed into law. Ontario's teachers will accept the government's changes to the education system with some idle threats and a lot of bickering behind closed doors, because that's just the way we do things in Canada.

Your opinions welcome

Your voice or opinions is welcome in Our Letters to the Editor section. Our policy regarding letter submission is the following:

1. All letters must be received on the Friday one week prior to publication.

2. Each letter must include the student's name, college identification number and program of study.

3. All letters must be signed and include a day and evening telephone number for verification use only.

All letters can be mailed or brought to the Niagara News newsroom, Room S212, Simcoe Building, Welland campus.

FROM THE HIP

Advertising 735-2211 ext. 7748

Be prepared for winter driving hazards

By IAN ANDERSON
Staff Writer

Winter driving is a task no one wants to deal with, but we do.

Living in the Niagara Region from November to March creates many problems for drivers.

Slippery roads and snowdrifts are the biggest obstacles motorists face.

There are a few simple things car owners can do to improve their winter driving experiences.

Driving more slowly and being patient are the easiest things you can do. Braking time and reaction times are different in the winter.

Pumping your brakes instead of slamming them reduces the risk of the brakes locking and causing the car to slide. Keeping your distance from the vehicle in front helps too. The driver of that vehicle could do anything — Slam on the brakes, slide or even spin out. If you are far enough back you will have time to react.

Other precautions involve the preparation of your car.

Warming your car in the morning is advisable.

If you drive a fuel-injected car put your key in and turn it but don't start the car. Wait 10 seconds, then start the car. This allows fuel to enter the engine, producing a better start. This also improves fuel economy.

If you drive a carburated car, pump the gas pedal twice and then start the car. This allows the car to warm up. In the winter, allow the car to warm up for five minutes. A warmer car runs better, rides better and uses less fuel.

Jason Peperall, 21, of Niagara Falls, says, "A regularly maintained car will last longer. If you keep up on the maintenance of your vehicle, your car will hold its resale value."

Peperall, a mechanic apprentice at Pep's Autoworks in Niagara Falls, says he hates to see nice cars ruined by poor maintenance.

In the winter, rear-wheel-drive cars are light in the rear. A light car handles very loosely on ice and snow. There are a few things drivers can do to stop this problem.

One is to add weight to the rear of the car by placing sand bags or concrete bags in the trunk. Another way is to put on snow tires. This is expensive but improves traction and handling.

Remember to leave extra time when driving to a destination. Make sure the car has enough gas and that it is in good working order. If it isn't, make sure you know where to get help if you need it. No one wants to get stuck on the side of the road in the middle of nowhere.

Contrary to popular belief gaining weight's desirable

By KERRI WOOD
Staff Writer

Lose all the weight you want for a dollar-a-pound.

Jenny Craig and Weight Watchers have been helping people lose weight for years.

As I flick through the television channels, commercial after commercial, people are trying to convince me that I need to lose weight.

Oh! The secrets of weight loss.

There are so many different diets, programs and exercises that will help to take weight off. There are even thousands of special books, videotapes, recipes and even herbal treatments available that can be customizing to each individual.

I can't tell you how many advertisements I've read that say, "I lost 30 pounds in just 30 days."

What if you don't want to lose weight?

What do you do if you don't need to lose weight, but instead need to gain weight to look and feel healthier?

'I lost 30 pounds in 30 days'

I couldn't tell you how many people who look at me and assume that I have an eating disorder. I have heard the comments behind my back. Some people have even come right up to my face and asked, "Are you anorexic?"

People approach me all of the time telling me that I am too thin and that I "need to eat."

Thank you for your concern!

I have been desperately trying to gain weight for the past three years. I have taken many tests and tried many programs to help me gain weight.

So far, nothing has worked. I eat at least four meals a day and I try to snack at least every hour. For the last three years, however, I have had to struggle to maintain the same weight.

Lucky, you say?

I don't consider myself lucky, especially when those passing by look in disgust and make comments like this on my figure: "She's so skinny!"

For those of you who struggle to lose weight, I feel for you.

It can be just as hard for some to lose weight as it is for some to gain weight.

Patriotism falls short

By DAN DAKIN
Staff Writer

It's nice to know that there is still some patriotism out there.

At the opening game of the Niagara Knights men's basketball team last Friday, I witnessed something that really made me think.

The game was exciting and fun, of course, but what caught my attention the most, happened before the game even started.

After the starting lineups for the two teams were called out, the announcer introduced the national anthem.

Most people did rise to their feet and faced the Canadian flag on the wall as an old copy of *Oh Canada* played.

As I looked through those in attendance, I noticed an elderly lady sitting in a wheelchair. Almost immediately after the anthem started playing, she asked someone beside her to lift her up.

A man lifted the woman to her feet and held her from falling. It seemed that although she was handicapped and couldn't stand by herself, she still wanted to make an effort.

What an incredible showing of patriotism that was.

I continued to look through the crowd and noticed a man in his 20s. Throughout the entire national anthem, this man sat down in the bleachers and didn't move.

How much effort would it have taken to stand up for the minute or two of *Oh Canada*?

Now I'm sure he would try to defend himself with a valid excuse, but if an elderly woman in a wheelchair can make the effort, I think everyone can, and should.

If our country was filled with patriotism like that woman has, we would be in much better shape than we are.

Concert ticket stubs can be a bigtime ripoff

By PAUL JACKSTIES
Staff Writer

I was 16 when I started going to see live bands, hitchhiking to Toronto or across the border to the U.S. to see shows. I'd be so excited nights before a big show that I would have trouble getting to sleep.

For every concert I've attended I've tried to keep my ticket stub. Collectively they tell a rock and roll history of where I've been on given dates stretching back to 1977. On Aug. 27 of that year, for example, I saw Peter Frampton at the Convention Centre in Niagara Falls, N.Y.

All of this is to stress the importance many of us place on a small, torn piece of paper known as a concert ticket stub.

Some tickets are superior to others. A Rolling Stones ticket from their Tattoo You tour of 1981 is printed on high-quality multi-colored paper featuring artwork from the album. The ticket looks as good today as it did 16 years ago.

Here's the problem. I pay $20 or more to see a show and I get this cheap slip of pulp with barely legible ink.

In 1988, as another example, I saw Love and Rockets at the Concert Hall in Toronto and my ticket, nothing much to begin with, faded in next to no time. Today it is illegible and sadly it is the only token I have of a memorable night.

To add insult to injury I can flip my souvenir stub over and there's a brilliantly colored and well-preserved advertisement for Pizza Pizza. Partial credit for that show goes to Molson Canadian Rocks, CFNY radio station *and* Coca Cola, all of them big money corporations with their names on the ticket.

Throw together the likes of David Bowie, the SkyDome, Labatt's and TicketMaster and you don't fare any better.

Who's to blame? The artist? The promoter? The venue? I don't know. Certainly the artists we're paying to see could have something to say on this matter. They should know and care that fans keep their tickets.

False alarm

The fire department arrives for a false alarm at the student residence.

Photo by Jonathon Narvey

Chugh moving on up

Our new VP

By MARK RIEHL
Staff Writer

Anoop Chugh, 23, of St. Catharines, a second-year Manufacturing Engineering Technician program student, is the new executive vice-president of Niagara College's Student Administrative Council (SAC), replacing Scott Heil.

"We had a shift in position and Scott Heil, unfortunately due to personal reasons, is no longer with us," said Chugh. "He did a great job while he was here and I'm just trying to fill his shoes."

Chugh was vice-president of internal affairs for SAC, but when Heil's position opened, he accepted the promotion leaving Roxane Learn, 23, of Welland, a second-year Educational Resources and Special Needs program student, to fill his position.

ANOOP CHUGH

The executive vice-president is responsible for updating the SAC constitution for approval by the members of the corporation. The job entails tasks such as dealing with the student representatives, clubs and financial standing of student organizations. He is also responsible for covering the duties of the SAC president in his absence.

Chugh said he is responsible for any in-house complaints about the staff at the college.

"This is a position that requires a lot of political details that are involved, and a lot of the time you have to be the bad guy who brings up bad news," said Chugh.

"In this position I would like to tell a lot of people they're doing a good job. That way we've got a council that is trying to work together and we're trying to give credit where credit is due."

Time to help the needy

By MARK RIEHL
Staff Writer

The holidays are soon arriving and it's a time for giving.

Niagara College's Student Administrative Council (SAC) will be looking for students to search their cupboards for non-perishable food items to donate to the food drive.

Tiffany Fox, 22, of Toronto, a second-year Broadcasting Radio, Television and Film program student, is the organizer of the food drive.

"We will be wrapping up boxes and we will distribute them around the college for people to drop off food in," said Fox, the vice-president of external affairs. "The food will be stored in the SAC office and if anyone really needs food we will give them a bag of food."

The food drive will begin on Nov. 24 and will run until Dec. 12.

"The food is mainly for needy students and I believe it is a good idea because a lot of people run out of OSAP by this time of the year and they could use the food," said Fox.

SAC is trying something different this year by sending a memo to teachers and program heads at the college to turn the food drive into a college-wide competition involving classes or programs in hopes of getting more students involved in donating food items.

Those needing food can pick some up in the SAC office located in After Hours at the Welland campus. If all of the non-perishable food items are not distributed by the end of the food drive then SAC will send the remaining food to the Welland Food Bank.

She's finally in

ROXANE LEARN

By MARK RIEHL
Staff Writer

Roxane Learn is finally on Niagara College's Student Administrative Council (SAC).

Learn, 23, of Welland, a second-year Educational Resources and Special Needs program student, is the new SAC vice-president of internal affairs.

Learn has attempted twice to get on SAC. She lost an election in April to be executive vice-president and an election earlier this school year to be vice-president of athletic affairs.

"I lost, I lost, I wasn't going to give up. Then I got it," said Learn.

"Basically someone resigned and due to some inner shuffling, I was promoted for the position."

During a Nov. 6 SAC meeting, Scott Heil resigned, opening the door for Anoop Chugh to replace him as executive vice-president of external affairs. Chugh's position of vice-president of internal affairs was then opened for Learn.

"I take care of all the poster boards in the college and the yellow SAC sign in front of the After Hours and I help in preparing the Sexual Assault Awareness Week and the Alcohol Awareness Week," said Learn. "I also help out in the SAC office and any other SAC projects."

To be eligible for a SAC position, a student must have a 65 per cent academic average in the previous term and the student must attend the college full time.

Learn said a nomination kit must be completed with 25 signatures from students, and proof of a 65 per cent academic average and a recommendation from a program director or an instructor must be obtained. Also, an additional signature from a student with a 65 per cent or higher academic average is needed to be nominated.

Learn said she looks at her new position as a challenge and as something new and different, allowing her to be more involved in the school and to work with people.

"I am a very high energetic person and I think my energy will be very beneficial to SAC," she said.

Awareness Week 'less than successful'

By MARK RIEHL
Staff Writer

Alcohol Awareness Week has ended, and because of a "lack of time" and preparation from the Student Administrative Council (SAC), the event was less than successful.

Roxane Learn, SAC's vice-president of internal affairs, organized the week planning different events each day.

Nov. 17 was Pop Day at the pub. After Hours management donated free pop for the students, which was served throughout the day.

"It went over really well and a heck of a lot of pop was consumed compared to alcohol," said Learn.

On Tuesday, After Hours hosted a alcohol-related trivia contest during the afternoon. Six questions were asked to the students and a couple of prizes were handed out.

During the Wednesday and Thursday night pubs, SAC arranged a taxi cab company to offer students a flat rate from the college. A cab to the north end of Welland was $6, while a trip to the south end was $10.

On Wednesday, an information session was held in the lobby in front of the library in the Simcoe Building, but was cancelled. "Due to a lack of time on my part it didn't go through because organizations needed weeks in advance notice," said Learn.

Her lack of time was due to being promoted to the vice-president of internal affairs position on Nov. 6.

"This year's event was less than successful, but I think this is a very beneficial week for students and with the right planning and student participation it could be a fun and informative event next year."

SAC tries again

By MARK RIEHL
Staff Writer

It's time for some culture.

Niagara College's Student Administrative Council (SAC) will try again sending students to the Centre for the Performing Arts at Brock University in St. Catharines to attend a jazz classical comedy theatrical performance.

The bus will leave the Welland campus at 7:20 p.m. on Nov. 26 for the play *Ain't Misbehavin'*.

This will be SAC's second excursion to a theatrical event.

"I really hope we do the right thing with this trip," said Michael Berry, 23, SAC's vice-president of athletic affairs. "There was bad advertising for the last trip. I hope this trip will have a better turnout."

The first trip was to the Shaw Festival in Niagara-on-the-Lake in October when SAC gave away tickets for the performance. SAC has planned to put up banners and more posters to advertise the upcoming excursion.

There are 32 tickets for the trip at a cost of $15 each. Tickets can be purchased at the SAC office in After Hours.

Blais, Bryant new student representatives on SAC

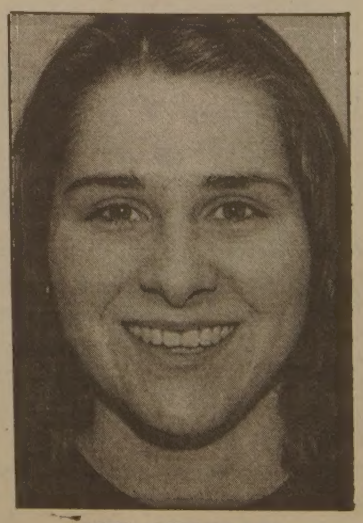
Two students on right track for higher posts

By MARK RIEHL
Staff Writer

These two have gone from being class representatives to student representatives all in their first year.

Melanie Blais, 19, of Timmins, Ont., a first-year Journalism-Print student, is the student representative for Niagara College's Student Administrative Council (SAC).

Nicole Bryant, 20, of Orangeville, Ont., a first-year Office Administration - Executive student, is the other elected student representative.



MELANIE BLAIS

The class representative meeting was held on Nov. 6 when seven students elected two student representatives.

Class representatives meet the first Tuesday and Thursday of every month at 12:30 p.m. at the conference room in After Hours. They are elected by their class and are responsible for relaying information from these meetings back to their classmates.

As student representatives, Blais and Bryan must attend SAC meetings held at 8:30 a.m., every Thursday. Their other duties consist of organizing class representative meetings and putting in five hours a week in the SAC office. Their office work is mainly to answer any questions students have.

NICOLE BRYANT

"I am excited and looking forward to putting in five hours a week at the SAC office, but I will probably donate much more time than that," said Bryan.

Both students said they are "happy" with their new SAC positions and are looking at this as an opportunity for a higher SAC position next year.

"I have never been on a high school council before and I always wanted to but never did," said Blais. "I just went out and did it this year, and I'm happy I get the experience of helping and representing the students."

Reality may be best teaching device

By JOHN PEAR
Staff Writer

Gino Arcaro could certainly use a longer work day.

The Port Colborne resident is a Law and Security Administration (LASA) teacher at Niagara College. He teaches four second-year LASA courses with an upfront, no-holds-barred style that draws from his policing experience.

He explains the reason for dictating the way he does: "(I) wouldn't be doing (the) students a favor by sugarcoating reality. (I'd) be doing (the students) an injustice. I have learned how not to teach."

He says he's very repetitive in what he teaches and he tries to "be as specific and meticulous as possible."

Arcaro, 40, has been teaching at the college since 1990. In this time, he has produced six study aids for LASA students. Some titles are these: *Criminal Investigation, Basic Policing Procedures*, and *Impaired Driving*.

He has a seventh book in the works, which could be released as soon as March 1998. McGraw-Hill-Ryerson is the current publisher of Arcaro's texts.

He has also written articles outlining case law and policing procedures in *Blue Line*, a law enforcement magazine distributed throughout Canada.

Prior to teaching at the college, Arcaro was an officer for the Niagara Regional Police Service. At 18, he started at the rank of cadet, in a situation Arcaro described as "overwhelming." At 19, he was promoted to constable and spent nine years at that post. The remainder of his 15-year service was spent on the Criminal Investigation Branch, which deals with detective work.

For those who are interested in entering the police service, Arcaro has the following advice: "(It's necessary) for them to understand there's numerous personal characteristics — integrity, personal standards, ethics, problem-solving, academics, physical conditioning, (being able to) handle stressful situations (and to) be a leader. Don't underestimate what you need to know to be successful."

Arcaro has also been successful when it comes to coaching football. He has spent 28 seasons in that post. His most recent success on the football field was in 1994, when he led the expansion Hamilton Wildcats to a perfect 9-0 record and the Independent National Championships.

He has written articles for the *Sport Times* and *Scholastic Coach* magazines. He also has three football texts in the works.

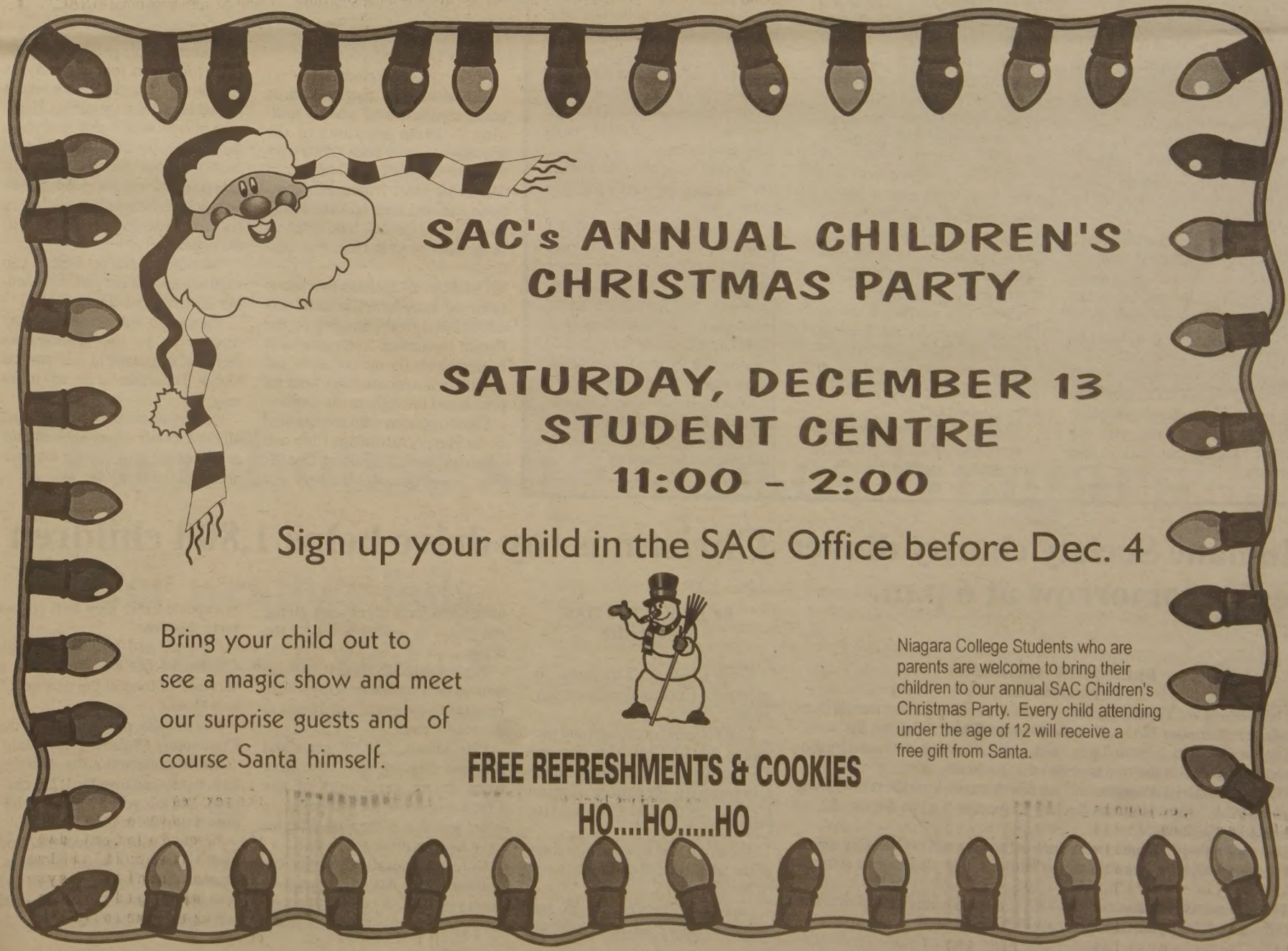
When he's not working, he spends time with his wife Janice, and three daughters, LeeAnn, Jessica and Jordan. Asked how it feels to be married 19 years, Arcaro said, "Time flies when you're having fun."

'(I) wouldn't be doing (the) students a favor by sugarcoating reality.'
— Gino Arcaro

Wow, what a catch!

From left, Joe Rowling, Darrell Lumley and Mark Laforest. The Niagara College students showed off their catch of the day, a gigantic trout, on Sunday, Nov. 16.

Photo by Jonathon Narvey


SAC's ANNUAL CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PARTY
SATURDAY, DECEMBER 13
STUDENT CENTRE
11:00 - 2:00
Sign up your child in the SAC Office before Dec. 4
Bring your child out to see a magic show and meet our surprise guests and of course Santa himself.
FREE REFRESHMENTS & COOKIES
HO....HO.....HO
Niagara College Students who are parents are welcome to bring their children to our annual SAC Children's Christmas Party. Every child attending under the age of 12 will receive a free gift from Santa.

COMMUNITY NEWS

Silver City Cinema sparkles

The Famous Players Silver City Cinema opened this month at the Pen Centre in St. Catharines. All eight theatres inside have stadium-style seating.

Photo by Dan Dakin

By DAN DAKIN
Staff Writer

Boredom is officially extinct.

This was one of the slogans used at the grand opening of a new $2.9-million theatre complex at the Pen Centre in St. Catharines.

Although the theatres didn't officially open until the next night, Famous Players Inc. held a by-invitation-only gala preview to Silver City St. Catharines on Nov. 6.

The eight theatres in the complex range in size from 167 seats with a 19-foot by 42-foot screen to 362 seats with a 28-foot by 51-foot screen.

In total there are 2,013 seats, all set up in a tiered stadium style. Each row is dropped about two feet from the one behind it. This means that the problem of a tall person sitting in front of you has been eliminated.

Last year, the old three-theatre cinema at Pen Centre was closed as renovations took place to bring it up to par with the other leading cinemas in the province.

"Our triple was doing well," said John Bailey, vice-president of Famous Players. "We thought since that was doing well why not go up to the eight theatres?"

Other attractions at the cinema include a Famous Cafe featuring Starbucks Coffee and a TechTown Interactive Games Centre.

Located around the theatre is a variety of movie memorabilia such as a giant Starship Enterprise and a large bus jumping off a bridge from the movie *Speed*.

The new cinema is part of a three-year, $200-million expansion project. It is the largest project in the company's 77-year history. Famous Players now operates 105 cinemas with 510 screens across Canada.

There is a second Famous Players cinema at the Lincoln Mall in St. Catharines. It will stay open but older movies will be shown and ticket prices have been slashed to $2.

Tickets to the new Silver City theatre are regular $8.50 and $5 for children and seniors.

Review

The new Silver City theatre could make any movie into an adventure.

At the preview night of the new Famous Players Cinema at the Pen Centre in St. Catharines, the movie *Mad City*, starring John Travolta and Dustin Hoffman, was shown.

The simple plot of the movie involved Travolta playing an off-the-edge museum guard who has been fired from his job.

He returns to the museum to ask for his job back but when his boss doesn't listen, he pulls out a shotgun and takes her and a school tour group hostage.

Hoffman, who plays a dried-up television reporter, happens to be in the museum at the time and becomes Travolta's public relations man of sorts.

While the acting in the movie was very well done, the plot wasn't exactly deep.

A better movie could have been chosen to show off what the new theatre could do.

With its incredible screen size and stereo surround sound, it may have been a better decision to show something like *Volcano* starring Tommy Lee Jones.

While this movie is fairly old, there were a number of wide-angle shots and explosions that would do a good job of showing off the theatre.

At one point near the middle of *Mad City*, the screen began to blur.

At first the audience didn't mind but after nearly five minutes of it people started turning around and leaving to complain.

While that seemed to be the cinema's only problem that night, it could be excused since it was one of the first times a movie had been shown there.

Overall the new Famous Players Silver City theatre is the best in the region and it is worth the price of admission.

We must remember

By CARLY ANDREWS
Staff Writer

"This is the day of all days of the year we have to look in two directions at once — the past and the future," said Reverend Duncan Lyon, while addressing hundreds of people gathered at the Niagara Falls Memorial Arena for the annual Remembrance Day service honoring those who died in war.

Two minutes of silence for personal reflection was followed by renditions of *Last Post*, *The Lament*, and *Reveille* by piper Lionel Tupman.

Students representing Cardinal Newman School, Saint Michael High School, and Stamford Collegiate, all of Niagara Falls.

They brought tears to the eyes of those in the crowd with poems they had written for the occasion.

Corporal John Curran of Lincoln & Welland Regiment recited the traditional Remembrance Day poem *In Flanders Fields* .

"We gather on this anniversary for a civil celebration to honor (the dead)," said Monsignor Vincent Ferrando. "Lest we forget the bereaved mothers, fathers and children."

Rev. Duncan Lyon reminded everyone of the importance of prayer, reflection and celebration on Nov. 11.

"It (peace) was won for us at a great cost," Lyon said. "If we do less, we do not remember — we betray."

St. Patrick's Church Children's Choir, lead by Carol Martin, sang as a procession gathered for the placing of wreaths by the memorial cross.

Doreen Head, of Niagara Falls, secretary of Central Veterans of Niagara and past president of Branch 51, was partly responsible for the organization of the day's events.

Having served for several years in the Royal Canadian Air Force Women's Division as a teleprinter operator stationed in Halifax at Eastern Air Command, she witnessed the tragic deaths of many people she had grown up with and had gone to school with.

Casino celebrates birthday

By IAN ANDERSON
Staff Writer

Slot machines ringing, cards being shuffled, and wheels spinning — these are some of the sounds that have been heard over the past year at Casino Niagara.

Starting Dec. 1 Niagara's temporary casino will be celebrating its first anniversary. The celebrations will run from Dec. 1 to Dec. 9.

Celebrations include live entertainment daily with live radio and television remotes starting on the first of December. The casino will be decorated for the occasion and celebrity impersonators will be positioned throughout the casino.

Casino patrons who are enrolled in the Players Advantage Club will receive double points on Dec. 1, Dec. 5 and Dec. 8. Members will also receive triple points on Dec. 9.

Patrons who join the Players Advantage Club receive free tokens and other perks of the casino. Every time players with a club card place the card in a slot machine and spend money on that machine, they will earn points. Every 100 points equals $5 in tokens. The only catch is they only earn one point for every $10 they spend.

Members born on Dec. 9 can receive a special gift just for attending the casino on their birthday.

The casino will be giving away nine trips to the Dominican Republic beginning at 7:30 p.m. on Dec. 9. The contest is already under way.

Full details about this contest and all other celebrations are available at the casino or by calling the casino at (905) 374-3598.

Humane Society charity dinner begins tomorrow at 6 p.m.

By LINDSEY ANDERSON
Staff Writer

The Welland and District Humane Society is hosting its first annual charity dinner tomorrow, Nov. 22, at the Welland Club, 1 Griffith St.

The event will kick off at 6 p.m. with a silent auction, followed by dinner and ending with the live auction of a few items.

"We raise material donations and auction them off, with the profits going to the SPCA," says Humane Society Inspector Nathan Steele, 32, of Niagara-on-the-Lake.

The auction will include items such as hockey tickets, jewelry, original watercolors, gift baskets, limited editions, CD players and gift certificates.

Tickets can be purchased for $40 from the Humane Society office at 60 Provincial St. For information call 735-1552.

Christmas toy drive helps 1,800 children

By JEFF SCHELHAS
Staff Writer

Santa Claus isn't the only one giving out Christmas presents anymore.

CHOW radio organized and promoted the 1st Christmas Toy and Food drive in conjunction with the Community Resource Action Centre and the Community Christmas Toys.

The event was in the centre court of the Seaway Mall during the week of Nov. 10 to 15.

On Nov. 15 between 1 p.m. and 3 p.m. CHOW had on-air personalities and local dignitaries giving out prizes as a final boost for the drive.

Non-perishable food items and unused and unwrapped toys were brought to the event volunteers at the mall's court.

Pete Marna, CHOW news and program director, said, "We have been doing variations of the Christmas drive for the past five years and this is the first time we have had the drive at the mall."

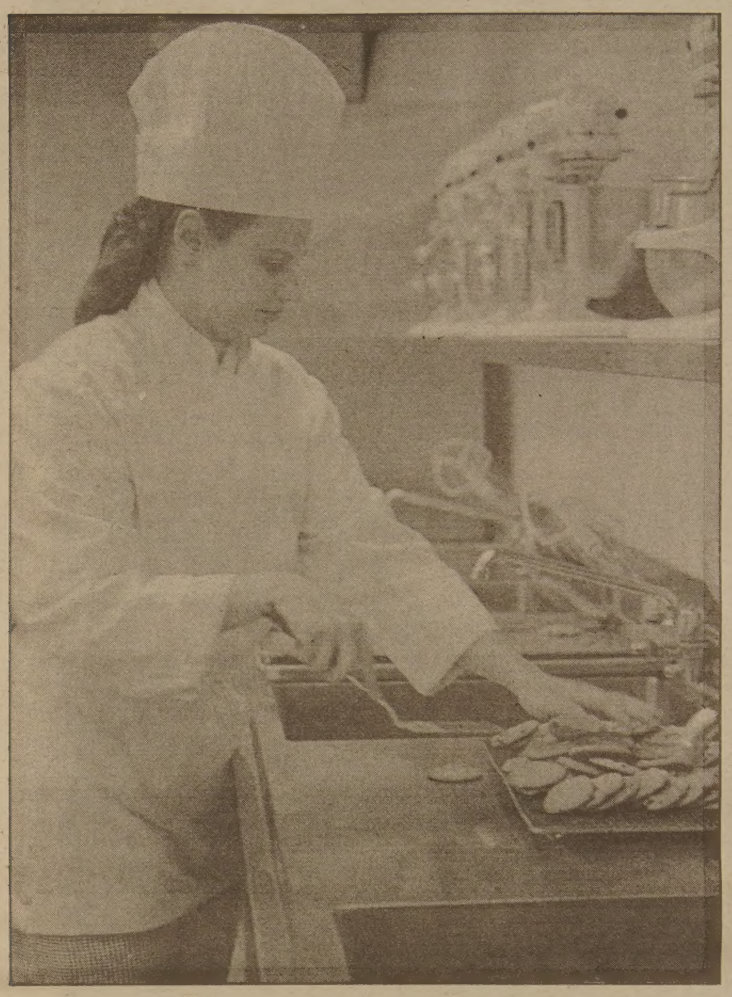
Doreen Orsini, food service coordinator at the Action Centre, said, "Last year CHOW collected enough food for 20 or more families and it is expected that they will collect more this year."

"We should be OK through Christmas, but we could have a shortage of food in the new year," said Orsini.

Marge Frith, the chairman of the Community Christmas Toys, said, "CHOW collected mitts, scarves, hats, candy and toys for 1,739 children, and this year over 1,800 children will receive gifts."

Action Centre collects the food and distributes food baskets. Community Christmas Toys has been giving children Christmas gifts and winter clothing since 1973.

The MAID of the Mist Centre



The Maid of the Mist Centre houses a diverse range of programs covering many aspects of the service industry from food preparation to casino training. Above, second-year culinary skills student Julie Michaud, 20, prepares cookies during a baking lab. Right, Niagara College Communications Officer Jerry Salfi plays roulette with the Niagara Knight, who is really first-year culinary skills student Chris Levick of Smith Falls, Ont., during a casino training demonstration. Both the lab and the demonstration were part of the centre's open house, Nov. 15.

Photos by Kevin Harding

Open house showcases Niagara

Winter weather fails to discourage visitors

By KEVIN HARDING
Staff Writer

The Maid of the Mist Centre for Hospitality and Tourism (MOMC) held its annual community open house Nov. 15, despite a pair of problems.

A severe snowstorm the day before the event was expected to affect attendance, but MOMC staff members said they felt turnout was on par with previous years.

"Considering the weather, turnout has been good," said Judy Ventresca, secretary to Hospitality and Tourism Division Director David Taylor.

Taylor said he felt the turnout was comparable to last year's open house, with close to 300 people attending the three-hour event.

After braving the weather to attend, many people were then forced back into the snow for a few minutes when one of the cooking demonstrations set off the facility's fire alarm system about an hour into the program.

Everything quickly returned to normal and the public was able to take advantage of the information tables set up in the building's foyer. Staff members from the college's various administrative departments were on hand to discuss employment, counselling, financial aid and continuing education with prospective students and the general public.

Representatives from the registrar's office, the admissions office and Student Administrative Council were also available to answer questions about attending Niagara College and experiencing college life.

"The whole point of today is to create community awareness of what we're about," said Taylor.

The staff and students of MOMC used the opportunity to show off their skills.

Cooking demonstrations were open to the public in every kitchen at the facility. There were so many demonstrations that some had to be held in the building's foyer and lecture theatre.

Several were devoted exclusively to baked goods. Visitors sampled everything from simple chocolate-chip cookies to ornate pastries shaped like swans while watching to see how each was made.

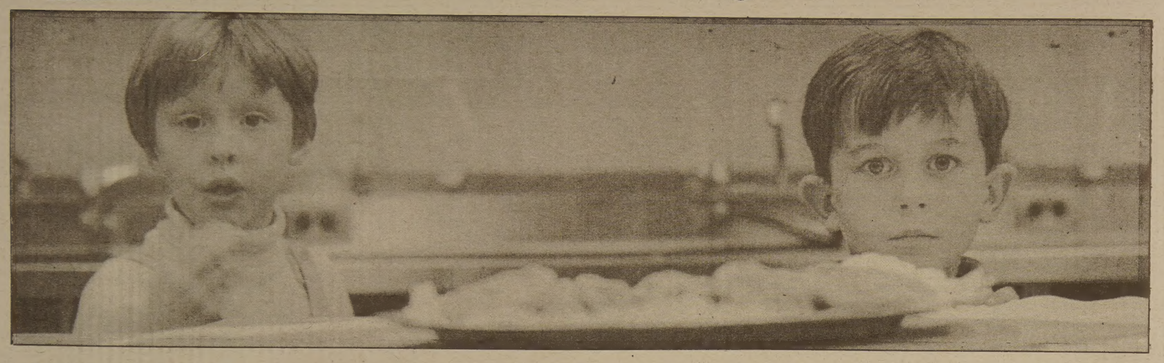
One kitchen was devoted entirely to quiche, with six different varieties available for sampling.

With their hunger satisfied, guests were welcome to tour classrooms and labs, with one of the most popular being the casino training room where dealing and roulette demonstrations were given by students in the program.

Taylor said he felt the event was an excellent opportunity for the public to see what goes on at MOMC.

"It gives us a chance to showcase our staff and our students," said Taylor.

Beauty and the Feast



Maid of the Mist Centre welcomes world

By KEVIN HARDING
Staff Writer

The Maid of the Mist Centre for Hospitality and Tourism (MOMC) played host to the world during its biannual International Day Nov. 18.

This year's event featured the art, music, cuisine and native dances of Scotland, Ireland, Bulgaria, Indonesia and Canada.

"It's all an effort to give Niagara *College an international feeling,"* said Jos Nolle, manager of international education for the college.

The centrepiece of the event was the Indonesian booth. It was staffed by a delegation of Indonesian high school principals that has been studying the college's curricula in recent weeks.

"We are learning a lot about tourism here," said Neneng Dasmawadi, an Indonesian principal who spent the day serving *gado-gado* (Indonesian salad with peanut sauce) and *soto ayam* (a spicy *chicken soup).*

The visiting principals were joined for the day by a special guest. Titiek S. A Suyono, consul general of Indonesia, visited MOMC and took part in the festivities with her compatriots.

"I'm enjoying your International Day very much," said Suyono. "We are making friendships and that is important."

In honor of her visit, Suyono was presented with a bouquet of flowers following a demonstration of traditional Indonesian dance performed by Igustiay Putera, a high school principal from the Indonesian island of Bali.

The representatives of Canada's aboriginal peoples were also very popular with the crowd.

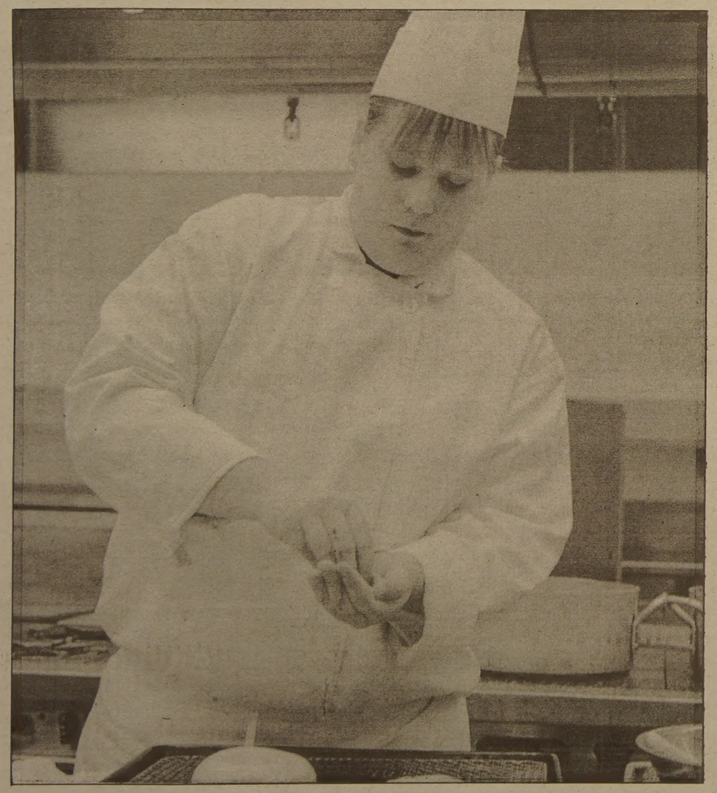
Second-year culinary student Michael LaForme served corn soup, fried bread and "Indian cookies" while Russ Blackbird, an instructor with the college's vocational program, performed a traditional native dance in full costume.

Amos Key, an academic adviser in the Aboriginal Education Office, captivated the crowd by singing a native war song which tradition says was sung at the Battle of Queenston Heights during the War of 1812.

Although the International Day events held educational value for the general public, second-year tourism and tour attraction student and International Day co-ordinator Soonho Kwan, 28, said the event had a special value to students in his own program.

"Tourism students want to learn about new cultures and opportunities," said Kwan.

MOMC hosts an International Day in each academic term.



There's always something going on at the Maid of the Mist Centre for Hospitality and Tourism in Niagara Falls. Above, Kacey Taylor and Kyle Kidd, both 6, sample some chocolate chip cookies during the centre's open house, Nov 15. Left, second-year culinary skills student Kristen Wilson, 20, prepares bagels. Above, second-year hotel and restaurant administration student Mike McGrillen serves traditional Irish stew during International Day, Nov. 22.

Photos by Kevin Harding

It's not a Porsche but it's 'great'

Mick Chudzik, first-year Horticulture Technician Co-op student, "having a hoot" riding the lawn mower at the Niagara Street Horticulture Centre in St. Catharines.

Photo by Kathleen McArthur

By KATHLEEN McARTHUR
Staff Writer

Students are riding around the Horticulture Centre in St. Catharines as part of their class work.

Mick Chudzik, 51, a first-year Horticultural Technician (Co-op) student in the co-op program, rides the lawn mower as part of his studies.

The mower was donated by Duke Lawn Equipment, of Hamilton, which replaces the equipment each spring.

Chudzik, of Hamilton lost his position as an universal agent with Human Resources Development Canada in March because of government downsizing.

He said he finds the information in the program practical both for his home gardening and for a possible future business.

"I now find that my wife (a Hamilton teacher) and I will talk about gardening, composting and the planting of tulips.

"The students are great, the school is great, and the instructors are great. I'm having fun. It should be illegal.

"I should have done this 10 years ago. This is a hoot," said Chudzik, as he gave the grounds a final cut.

The program is at the Horticulture Centre on Niagara Street in St. Catharines. It will be moving to the new campus in Niagara-on-the-Lake in September 1998.

Mixed emotions over Glendale Campus

By KEVIN MCKEE
Staff Writer

There are mixed emotions about the move to Niagara College's new Niagara-on-the-Lake Glendale campus for the Horticulture program.

Sue Merrit, a first-year student at the Horticulture Centre in St. Catharines, said, "This campus has character. It grows on you like a bad weed."

Tom Ball, co-ordinator at the centre, said, "We will have larger facilities to accommodate our students and their needs."

Ball said enrolment is about 83 first-year students and 77 second-year students. He said the larger facility will mean an opportunity to increase enrolment. The students will be able to spend more time on a wide variety of outdoor labs.

Merrit said she'll miss the community atmosphere. "I'm sure the facilities will be a lot better," she said, "but it is like moving into a new house. It'll take some getting used to."

The Horticulture Centre will be part of the new campus on Glendale Avenue in Niagara-on-the-Lake in September 1998. With the move, they will be adding new courses, such as a Turf Specialist one-year certificate program and a two-year Landscape Technician program.

Preparing for spring

Brian Rutherford, 19, and Trisha Romanowski, 18, both first-year students in the Horticultural Technician (Co-op) program plant crocus bulbs which will bloom in March.

Photo by Sharon Whaling

THE HORTICULTURAL CENTRE

Top Photo: Trisha Romanowski, 18, and Jake Sneider, 20, both first-year Horticulture Technician (Co-op) program students, bud chrysanthemums for Christmas sales.

Photo by Kevin McKee

Raking leaves to make a compost, Andrea Clelland, 24, of St. Catharines, also a first-year student, enjoys the fall weather last week, while an exterior view of the Horticultural campus appears picturesque. The St. Catharines campus is located at 360 Niagara St.

Photos by Sharon Whaling

HEALTH MATTERS

CPR promoted

CPR part of professional responsibility

DONNA CONRADI

By CARRIE WHITE
Staff Writer

Although nursing is of major importance to the community, after this year Niagara College's Nursing Studies program will end.

Donna Conradi, co-ordinator of nursing studies at the Welland campus, said the program is being phased out.

Conradi started her career right out of school when she practiced as a public health nurse.

She then worked for the Victorian Order of Nurses doing home-based nursing. She has been at Niagara since 1973.

"I've had many years of experience teaching," she said.

Conradi has always taught nursing theory and nursing practice. She also taught biology, physiology, microbiology and anatomy.

This year, however, as a result of cutbacks, "all of the remaining faculty will teach nursing and nursing practice," she said.

'Evidence of CPR re-certification must be shown' — Donna Conradi

On the admission application for the program, students are advised they must have completed the cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) training program. This becomes a prerequisite for the second semester when the students begin clinical practice.

"Evidence of CPR re-certification must be shown at the beginning of each semester," said Conradi.

It is assumed students will be responsible and that they would consider this "part of their professional responsibility."

Conradi said nurses see themselves primarily as health educators.

"I'm sure any nurse would support and encourage the community at large to learn CPR. CPR promotion would be consistent with our role as health educators."

'Do it for your family'

By CARRIE WHITE
Staff Writer

The first stage in cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) is the most critical part of saving the life of someone because 50 per cent of those who die from heart attacks are not in the hospital at the time.

Richard Chandler, 48, is the coordinator of the Paramedics program at the Welland campus of Niagara College.

Although the Paramedics program has no part in endorsing CPR Month this November, the students are well informed about the importance of CPR training, Chandler said.

Prior to entering the program, students must have a standard first aid certificate and a certificate as a basic rescuer in CPR.

"All the students are certified in CPR and a number of them are instructors," said Chandler.

Chandler said the purpose of CPR Month is to focus on the "first initial stage" when the first responder should get immediate help and call an ambulance.

All students in the program are required to have yearly certifications in CPR.

Chandler said the training is "very critical" and useful to have.

"If you don't do it for anyone else, do it for your family," said Chandler.

Students need the CPR training as they will be learning how to administer emergency care to victims of injury or illness. They will also receive instruction on how to provide safe and effective transportation to the hospital.

During the academic year, students will participate in patient care in local hospitals by spending time in the emergency department and assuming ambulance field responsibilities.

CPR can save lives

Canadians encouraged to learn CPR during CPR month

By CARRIE WHITE
Staff Writer

In November when everyone starts to dread the winter months, St. John Ambulance is celebrating cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) Month.

Along with other health-related and injury prevention organizations, St. John Ambulance has decided to make November CPR Month. All Canadians will be encouraged to learn the importance of healthy living and cardiopulmonary resuscitation.

According to 1997 results compiled by the Heart and Stroke Foundation, more than 44,000 Canadians die unnecessarily as the result of heart attacks. Half of these deaths occur outside a hospital setting.

CPR is two different life support skills working together: artificial circulation and artificial respiration. These keep a person's heart and brain supplied with blood and oxygen until an ambulance arrives.

More than 70 per cent of sudden heart attacks occur at home. These statistics underline why it is so important to learn the skill of CPR.

It is important to recognize the symptoms of a cardiovascular emergency. The victim may feel a crushing sensation and may also become scared, pale, nauseated, dizzy or go into shock and lose consciousness.

On average it can take over four hours for the heart attack victim to reach a hospital because many people deny anything is wrong.

Heart attacks often kill within two hours.

It is important for anyone around a heart attack victim to seek medical aid immediately.

If the victim's heart stops beating, anyone with CPR training can help prevent an unnecessary death just by applying the learned skill. CPR must be given within four minutes of the start of the heart attack in order for the victim to have a reasonable chance of surviving.

St. John Ambulance is celebrating CPR month

Studies show 92 per cent of Canadians know CPR can save lives, but very few have learned the technique by taking the course.

In as little as four hours, a St. John Ambulance course can teach the lifesaving CPR skills.

In 1996, over 257,000 people in Ontario were trained in CPR by St. John Ambulance.

CPR courses are available at any of the 62 St. John Ambulance branches in Ontario. Contact the Welland branch, on 70 Elmwood Ave., at 735-6431 or call the Council for Ontario at 1-800-268-7581.

Heart failure: know its signs

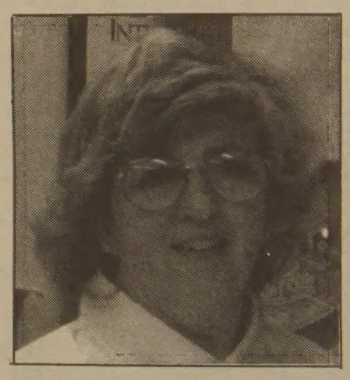
College nurse has impressive background

By CARRIE WHITE
Staff Writer

Carolyn Hurst, Niagara College's nurse in the health centre, isn't just responsible for handing out Band-Aids.

Hurst hasn't always been a college nurse. Her career has consisted of stints in psychiatric nursing (for seven years) and public health. Hurst said she really enjoys working as a college nurse.

"It's a wonderful job. I like the variety," says Hurst.



CAROLYN HURST

Being a college nurse isn't easy, she says. It requires a very "broad-based practice knowledge."

"I am responsible for my own practice and knowledge base," says Hurst.

Her knowledge base is very impressive. Hurst has background knowledge in psychology, medicine, first aid, nutrition, mental health, healthy sexuality, rape counselling and communicable diseases, to name a few.

"I call myself a jack of all trades and master of none," she says. "I wear many hats."

Hurst says it's "very important" for people to know CPR.

"You never know when you're going to use it."

Knowing the routine is a learned process through "sequenced repetitive training."

"You should re-certify every year," says Hurst.

'I wear many hats' —Carolyn Hurst

Knowing the signs and symptoms of heart failure is very important. If a person is unconscious and doesn't appear to be breathing, Hurst says you should call an ambulance immediately.

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HEALTH MATTERS

-H2-

Keeping Niagara College healthy

Representatives to talk to students about health issues.

By MICHELLE ADEY
Staff Writer

Winter is coming and so is Niagara College's Health Fair.

On Nov. 25, the college's health centre is sponsoring a health fair between 10 a.m. and 3 p.m. in the foyer across from the Hamilton Room at the Welland campus.

Representatives from various health organizations will bring their expertise through displays and brochures and information sessions.

The Lung Association, the Canadian Red Cross and Epilepsy Niagara are among the 20 health representatives who have confirmed participation at this year's fair.

Carolyn Hurst, college nurse, says Epilepsy Niagara has provided "a good presentation" in the past by showing some good videos.

"The health fair is an awareness for students. It is also bringing organizations from the community on campus to talk to students."

Hurst says she would like to see students respond to the health fair by simply taking a look at the displays and asking questions.

"I want students to come and see it, ask questions and leave with information. The representatives are prepared to answer any questions students may have."

Hurst says her expectation of the fair is that students may use the information now or in the near future.

"If a family member were to get cancer, the information the student could obtain at the fair could be useful in the future when dealing with such a situation."

The St. Catharines campus will hold its health fair on Dec. 2 from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. The Maid of the Mist Centre in Niagara Falls will have its fair on Dec. 4 from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

By MICHELLE ADEY
Staff Writer

The following health organizations will be participating in the Niagara College Health Fair on Nov. 25 between 10 a.m and 3 p.m. at the Welland campus. One organization will be announced closer to the date of the fair.

- Canadian Mental Health Association
- Brain Injury Community
- Canadian Red Cross
- Big Brothers of South Niagara
- Henderson Pharmacy
- The Lung Association
- Niagara Region Health Department
- Niagara Region Breast-feeding Coalition
- St. John Ambulance
- Crohn's and Colitis Foundation
- Niagara Region Department of Health Lifestyle
- Niagara Region Department of Health Birth Control
- Epilepsy Niagara
- Jacquie Herman Associates
- Sexual Assault Treatment Centre
- We Care Home Health Service
- Welland/Pelham Canadian Cancer
- Coalition Healthy Lifestyles
- Lighthouse Niagara Resource Centre for Youths at Risk

New low-risk drinking guidelines set

New guidelines recommend no more than two drinks a day and advise abstainers not to start drinking

By SARAH TAMMI
Staff Writer

Recently the Addiction Research Foundation, the University of Toronto and the Canadian Centre on Substance Abuse released new low-risk drinking guidelines.

A drink is considered to be one 12-ounce bottle of beer (5 per cent), one 5-ounce glass of table wine (12 per cent), one 1-ounce serving of spirits (40 per cent), or one 3-ounce serving of fortified wine (18 per cent), such as sherry.

Carolyn Hurst, Niagara College's nurse, agrees with the new guidelines, which, she adds, have been lowered.

"They (guidelines) are saying, 'Hey, come on. Don't buy into all that wonderful advertising,'" she said.

"When you start messing around with drugs and alcohol you don't know where reality is and where it isn't," Hurst said.

The new guidelines recommend no more than two drinks a day. Men should limit themselves to 14 drinks a week and women to nine drinks a week.

The guidelines also advise abstainers not to start drinking. This is to protect themselves from heart disease. The best ways to protect yourself are to exercise, eat healthful food and quit smoking.

Following these guidelines will, it is hoped, lead to responsible drinking and reduce alcohol-related problems.

However, there still are those who should not drink at all, such as pregnant women.

Others who should not drink are those with health problems, such as liver disease or psychiatric problems, people who are taking medication, or people with personal or family history of drinking problems.

"We have this wonderful body and need to take care of it," Hurst said.

"The habits you pick up now should be good ones, because they are lifetime ones."

Becky Read, 22, of the Correctional Worker program at Niagara College, redecorates the dining room at The RAFT, where she is a volunteer for her field placement.

Photo by Brenda Beaven

Teens' haven plans fund-raiser

By BRENDA BEAVEN
Staff Writer

There is a brighter future for Niagara's teens.

The Resource Association for Teens (RAFT) has been helping teens since June 1994. The RAFT was founded by a group of people from St. George's Anglican Church, St. Catharines.

The program offers teens between the ages of 16 and 18 a "safe haven," said Kathy Molloy, program co-ordinator.

Molloy has been with The RAFT since May of this year.

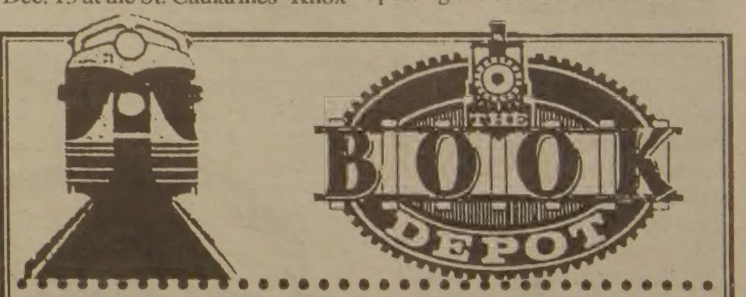
The association provides a place where youth can receive counselling on dealing with dysfunctional families and drug, alcohol and sexual abuse.

The RAFT provides food, clothing, laundry and a hot shower. There is no space to house youths overnight, but referrals can be made by staff to find shelters for overnight visits.

The RAFT is a charitable organization whose financial support comes mainly from the community, said Molloy. Other organizations, such as the United Way and local churches, help by donating money, but a lot of money comes from fund-raising.

A major fund-raiser for will be the Harmony choral performance Dec. 13 at the St. Catharines' Knox Presbyterian Church on King Street.

Tickets are $15 for adults and $12 for seniors and children. The money raised will go toward supporting the services at the RAFT.



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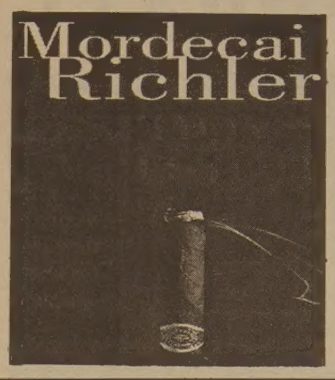
BETWEEN THE PAGES

Barney's Version changes from page to page



By KAREN GELLATLY
Staff Writer

Barney's Version is a novel full of inspiration for the reader and the narrator.

Mordecai Richler, a Canadian famous for his novel *The Apprenticeship of Duddy Kravitz*, has outdone himself with *Barney's Version*, this year's winner of the Giller Prize.

Barney Panofsky is a hockey fanatic. Throughout the book this one passion remains constant, along with his love for Miriam, his third wife, whom he met at his second wedding.

All else about this book cannot be taken for truth, as it changes from page to page.

Barney is writing his memoirs at a time in his life that his mind is failing him.

At the bottom of many pages there are footnotes with corrections, attributing quotes to their rightful owners or giving proper hockey scores, all put there by his eldest and estranged son.

Barney's Version, published by Knopf Canada, is the charming and humorous autobiography of a self-described intellectual, who can be pompous at times, modest at others.

His years in Paris are greatly featured, just as is his childhood in Montreal.

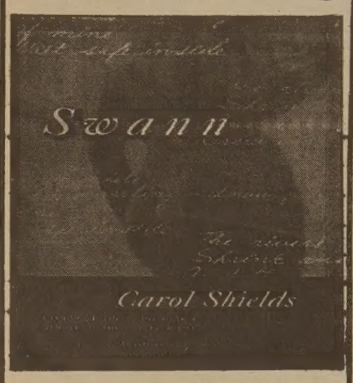
Duddy Kravitz makes a few entrances and is up to his old antics. Barney's friend and nemesis, Terry McIver, steals the stage though, never knowing if Barney idolizes or despises him, and not caring either way.

Barney is accused of murdering his best friend Boogie, and throughout the 400-page novel rants of his innocence, to everyone else's disbelief.

Barney's Version is a novel worth adding to your collection.

Put it next to your dictionary. As Barney says, you'll need it to understand Terry.

Swann's song



By CARRIE CHEHOWSKI
Staff Writer

Canadian author Carol Shields has written another best-selling book overflowing with authenticity.

Swann is a novel about a rural Canadian poet, Mary Swann, whose work goes virtually unnoticed until her violent death in the winter of 1965.

The 397-page book focuses on four individuals — Sarah Maloney, Morton Jimroy, Rose Hindmarch and Frederic Cruzzi — who are all linked to Swann's work in some way. Each chapter explores her personality from their experience and gives their differing views on the poet.

It is hard to remember the novel is fiction

After every bit of information and research on Swann vanishes, Maloney, Jimroy, Hindmarch and Cruzzi must work together to find the missing articles.

As with her later work, *Stone Diaries*, Shields has written a book so believable it is hard to remember the novel is fiction. The characters are easy to relate to as most have very realistic characteristics. Shields has also used fictional verse, supposedly written by Swann, to add to the realism.

Not only was *Swann*, published by Vintage Canada, made into a Canadian made-for-television movie, it also received recognition in the literary world. Shield's *Swann* is the winner of the Arthur Ellis Award for Crime Writing and was nominated for the Governor General's Award.

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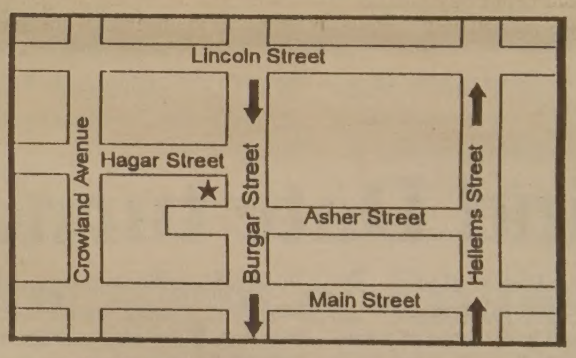

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ENTERTAINMENT

Mixed feelings at Blind Date concert

By MARK RIEHL
Staff Writer

The nominees for last Sunday's Blind Date were Moist, Ashley MacIsaac, Our Lady Peace, Sloan, Big Sugar and The Tea Party.

"I am praying it is Our Lady Peace," said Suzy Clarke, 19, of Brampton, a second-year Human Resource Management program student.

"It's probably the Tea Party, but I hope it isn't," said Rob Anderson, 19, of Niagara Falls, a first-year Construction Engineering program student.

"I have heard from everybody that it's going to be Ashley MacIsaac," said Kate Sloan, 19, of Goderich, a first-year Human Relations program student.

At 9:25 p.m. all questions were answered when the stage lights dimmed and appearing in front of 340 screaming Niagara College students was Ashley MacIsaac and the Kitchen Devils.

"Playing a blind date is different because wherever you go, there is going to be someone that doesn't like your music," said Stuart Cameron, 25, of Markham, the guitar player for MacIsaac.

'Ashley is a very generous guy.'
— Stuart Cameron

As MacIsaac wailed away on his fiddle, playing Celtic heritage music with an alternative twist, he gave many of his personal items away to front row fans. They got his hat, his sunglasses and even his leather jacket.

Cameron said "Ashley is a very generous guy" and he has seen him give away many "great items."

"Oh, my God. Ashley was phenomenal. I am a great fan, and when he gave me his leather jacket, I cried and I felt like a teenybopper back in the '60s," said Deborah Potyok, 20, of Port Colborne, a second-year advertising student.

This was MacIsaac's band's last performance after a long worldwide tour. The members will take a small vacation and then hit the studios to record a new album.

Cameron said they were just in Japan and the people thought the band was called the "Kitchen Tables" not the Kitchen Devils.

"This is our last show for a very long time and it was great to finish our tour here in front of a great small crowd," said Cameron.

"We had a great time and I hope everyone walked away happy."

"The show was free and you were able to get up close to the band and being able to see them in a small place like this was amazing. You felt like you were a part of the atmosphere," said David Tucker, 21, of Toronto, a second-year Arts and Sciences program student.

"I was very disappointed and I wanted to see Our Lady Peace or the Tea Party," said Trinity Smith, 19, of Hamilton, a second-year Law and Security Administration program student.

"Ashley MacIsaac only plays the violin. It would have been different if he was singing."

"Twenty people left the show as soon as MacIsaac began playing," said Dave Rapelje, organizer of the Blind Date and After Hours manager. "We were very happy with the event and we know now that we can put on large-scale acts here at After Hours."

Rapelje said MacIsaac put on "a great show" but the next time they will try to put on a rock 'n' roll band.

There were three other possibilities for this Blind Date that included acts like 54-40, Big Sugar and a double bill that would have seen the Headstones and the Nixons.

"Molson's suggested that we do another Blind Date and we are looking at the possibility of doing another show here some time in February."

Ashley MacIsaac gives Niagara students the experience of Celtic music during the Blind Date at After Hours.

Photo by Mark Riehl

Extra tickets won

By TRACY JAY
Staff Writer

Before the comedians went on the stage Nov. 12 at Niagara College's After Hours, two Broadcasting Radio, Television and Film program students gave the crowd another opportunity to win a chance to attend the Nov. 16 Blind Date concert.

Dave Rapelje, Student Centre manager, had an extra four pairs of Blind Date tickets to give away.

The two Campus Radio Niagara College (CRNC) deejays called up five couples to win four pairs of passes. The one couple who didn't win received Molson Canadian T-shirts.

The game was a challenge.

Each male placed a roll of toilet paper between his thighs and faced the wall. The female partners were blindfolded and given a long broom handle. The object was to be the first couple to get the broom handle in the roll of toilet paper, reverse in roles for the couples.

The eight winners (four pairs) received passes for the Blind Date concert. However, one winner was later stripped of his pass when it was discovered he worked at After Hours.

After the comedians had performed their sets, Rapelje presented one final pair of tickets to the person who had the special piece of yellow paper with the number 22 on it.

One hundred and fifty Blind Date tickets were drawn the previous week. All winners were called and told when and where to pick up their tickets. Only 120 showed up to claim their prizes.

Blind Date turned Cheap

By ANDREW HALL
Staff Writer

Blind dates have a habit of sometimes going bad and the Blind Date at Niagara College's After Hours on Nov. 16 was no exception.

The night began with dozens of half-frozen students lined up outside the bar anxiously waiting access into the warm interior.

Speculation began to circulate in the growing crowd who had one question in mind: Who was the band going to be?

For those unfamiliar with the system of a Blind Date, a short description is in order. A popular, yet secretive band agrees to play at a small bar to a small crowd consisting only of those who have won tickets.

As the time passed and the mercury dropped, bands' names such as Tea Party and Our Lady Peace began to circulate like through the lineup of concertgoers.

Finally the doors opened. People flooded in, anxious to find out the answer to the big question. Fans began to grow angry as the first hour passed without an appearance by the elusive band. More time passed and more alcohol was consumed. Then it happened. The big moment had come.

Staggering his way onto the stage was the unmistakeable form of the great alternative fiddler Ashley MacIsaac.

The crowd seemed to be of two points of view. Apparently there were two types of fans at the After Hours that night: those who like him and those who can't stand him.

After the first 20 minutes of the show, the crowd had shrunk considerably as person after person left the bar disappointed.

The problem was in the advertising. People were led to believe this was the Blind Date they had seen on television, the kind that featured bands like Soundgarden and Stone Temple Pilots. What most people failed to notice were the words Cheap Date written in place of Blind Date on their passes.

All in all, the show was well played and enjoyable for the few who stayed. It was disappointing for some and caused some anger in the disgruntled people who went back into the cold searching for a more stimulating "date."

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ENTERTAINMENT

Roach Motel hits home at After Hours

By MARK HRADSKY
Staff Writer

The "Roaches" have infested and now it's their turn to party.

The members of the band Roach Motel visited Niagara College's After Hours pub Nov. 5. This gig was played almost one year to the day after their first official gig on Halloween last year.

The show provided a mixture of sounds that are classified as "like hip hop, trip hop, but you got the motel hop," one band member said.

Roach Motel's name "came out of nowhere" but "has something to do with rolling papers," as Selector Tyrone, the vinyl and percussion player of the band, put it.

Julian Fuego plays acoustic guitar in the band. "I usually play that (pointing to the acoustic guitar) and nylon strings, which give it a soft sound," he said.

Oscar the Couch plays keyboard with style and quiet Jenn Gilmor lets her sound loose on bass.

Jorge DaCosta plays steady drums and traps beats that sound simple but are complex in nature.

Roach Motel's sound comes from "the city life, Toronto," said DaCosta. Toronto is the place where they try to get "moral elevation."

Because they have played with bands such as Treble Charger, the Ghandarvas, and Big Sugar, Roach Motel's name will be whispered by even the most musically disinclined crowd.

"Grey Boy is our next big show coming up," said Gilmor.

Roach Motel has one indy CD out now called **Free Fooze and Bood** with eight tracks. The band is coming out with another, currently named either **Spend the Night** or **Motel Kalifornia.** It is being recorded in Toronto.

The band members enjoy each other's playing ability and compliment each other. Jorge said he especially likes it when "Jenn is really on it and when the bass expectorates — it sounds like it spits." Jenn likes Jorge's drumming and explains it as "simple but complex."

Roach Motel is an excellent mix of hip-hop and rock that leads into a new age of music.

Comedy continues at the pub

By TRACY JAY
Staff Writer

Looking for a good laugh?

Wednesday nights at Niagara College's After Hours pub are the perfect time to find one.

James Cunningham and Jimmy "Macho" Mac entertained a group of about 110 Niagara students on Nov. 12.

Tom Zonneveld, 20, of Grimsby, Ont., a Call Centre Management program student, has been to every comedy night at this year.

"There have been some bad comedians here with outdated jokes, but the majority of them are good," said Zonneveld. "The audience seems to love it. The comedians are hysterical, and they usually talk about things that a college crowd can relate to."

On this night, Cunningham, seen on YTV, began by talking about types of cars college students tend to drive.

"They have shit cars with booming stereos," said Cunningham. The enthusiastic cheering indicated the audience was relating to this.

Both Cunningham and "Macho" Mac interacted well with the audience. They asked the students what they wanted to hear and what they wanted them to talk about.

At one point Cunningham said, "Well, I guess we've chatted enough. I should get back to my jokes now," after an extended conversation with the audience.

Both comedians did impersonations. Cunningham impersonated Mr. Burns from television's *The Simpsons*, and Forrest Gump.

"Macho" Mac ended his show with a confrontation between wrestler Hulk Hogan and Toronto Maple Leaf hockey player Tie Domi, whom the audience named "the toughest guy on the Maple Leafs." He also impersonated Don Cherry and Elmer Fudd. The audience reacted by cheering and whistling.

Cunningham made a few jokes about drinking on the May 24 weekend. "You always have just one friend you don't want to invite, but you feel you have to, and he always ends up being the guy who brings the shitty beer because he's afraid of getting ripped off."

One guy in the audience pointed to his friend and said, "That's you, man." They both nodded and laughed.

Mac hit the audience hard when he started talking about conflicts between men and women. The major issue was the toilet seat.

"Men leave it up, and women end up falling in. I don't understand why they just can't turn on the light before they sit down," said "Macho" Mac.

A good-natured debate began between the males and the females in the audience over this issue. The students were laughing and arguing at the same time.

Zonneveld said he was impressed with the show. "I'll be here every Wednesday until the comedy is finished. I love the shows."

Students enjoy night of fantasy

By TRACY JAY
and JENN WALKER
Staff Writers

It was a night of fantasy.

Johnny Angel's group American Fantasy swept through Niagara College's pub at After Hours on Nov. 10.

There were 184 women in attendance and five males. The show lasted two hours.

It was an exceptionally enthusiastic gathering of students.

The fantasy dance troupe consists of six members, four of whom performed that evening. All were Italian and single.

The four performers were Johnny Angel, 29, Michael Anthony, 23, Vinnie Vegas, 25, and Joey Ray, 24.

They all laughed and said they were not married when that particular question was raised.

"We're all single and available. It's very difficult to have a relationship in this business," said Angel.

On stage, the group was well choreographed. They knew what they were doing and what the audience wanted them to do.

They easily got the audience to participate and made sure the females in the audience were having a good time.

Ray, a high school health/biology teacher from the U.S., said it's "a good release."

"It gets us out on the weekend. Imagine if you were locked up with kids all day ."

They said a typical day is to drive to their location, set up, do the show, take the set down, head back to their hotel to crash for the night and maybe get a tan and workout into the day.

Their show included skits, singing, dancing and lots of interaction with the audience.

Marcia Decleodt, 19, and Jessica Compton, 21, of the Correctional Workers program, said they learned about the show through posters and just being in the bar.

"Everyone was talking about it," said Decloedt. "I heard about it through my friends. I'll probably end up tipping tonight."

Later that night, a friend who was sitting at the same table bought some raffle tickets. The group sold the tickets, which cost $2 for two tickets.

The prize for the winner was a bottle of champagne to share with her friends and the American Fantasy group after the show. The females swarmed to buy the tickets.

One big hit with the audience happened when Vegas put on a cowboy hat and sang Garth Brooks' song *I've Got Friends in Low Places*. Not only did the women love it, they were ecstatic and sang along during the song.

Between every change in performance, Angel did a toast. The women especially loved this part, and kept yelling, "Take it off! Take it off!"

One toast went like this:

Here's to the ladies in your high heel shoes.

Who love to party, and love your booze.

Oh, you lost your cherry, but that's no sin,

Cause you still got the box the cherry came in!

The students went wild after this particular toast, and all held their glasses high, clinking them together when Angel was done.

The group's cameraman taped the show, but after much demand from the crowd, he ended the show by dancing along with Ray on stage.

This was one performance the females at Niagara won't be forgetting anytime soon.

And fellows, congratulations to the five brave men who stayed and watched the show.

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The Official-Languages Monitor Program is funded by the federal Department of Canadian Heritage and administered by the Ontario Ministry of Education and Training in conjunction with the Council of Ministers of Education, Canada.

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Student photo ID here

By JONATHON NARVEY
Staff Writer

Every student should have one.

Most students at Niagara College have already had their pictures taken for their student identification cards. The cards give students access to library privileges and cheaper photocopies and laser printouts at the college. Faculty also have identification cards.

Nicki Howcroft, systems analyst at Niagara College, of Niagara Falls, said the cards "help meet the needs of students. It was seen as a high priority by students."

In previous years, some students needed as many as five separate identification cards. "About 4,900 cards have been issued," Howcroft said.

Elizabeth Weldon, director of information services, said "the total instalment cost" of the equipment to make the cards was $65,000. Maintenance costs per year are estimated to run to "$5,000 per year."

The monies used to purchase the equipment were allocated from the Student Technology Enhancement Committee (STEC) fund. All students at Niagara College paid $35 into the STEC fund, which totalled $350,000 when the equipment was purchased, Weldon said.

Weldon said, in the future, students may be able to use their cards in a point of sale system. Students could transfer money to the card and use it like a bank card to "buy their books, or whatever they might need."

Nancy Marcov, a registration and records clerk at Niagara, is shown with camera equipment used to make student cards.
Photo by Jonathon Narvey

Kids' sites visited on Web

By MARK HRADSKY
Staff Writer

What television stations would the Web Wizard wander to if the Web Wizard wandered to television stations on the Web? We'll see what I wander to in this edition.

My first stop seems to be www.ytv.com. Guess who's Web page this is? YTV has set up an excellent Web page which adults and children can follow with ease.

Designed specifically for children, the site has added a surfing tips section for children and includes rules to follow while on the Net.

They include these well-known rules: don't give out your name, and don't meet with someone you met on the Net without your parents' permission.

The site contains all the specialty shows that YTV programs such as the Hit List and the Antigravity Room. YTV has set up a nice site here but it is aimed toward the 12- to 14-year-olds.

The next stop on our TV tour is www.abc.com. ABC's Web page has a great starting page with a very nice Java applet that tells what's on abcnews and links it to the Web page. The site holds all the T.G.I.F. shows, as well as almost every other show on ABC at any time. It is a somewhat creative site but not exactly the most interesting around.

CBS' Web page at www.cbs.com has a similar setup to ABC's but is more graphic.

The graphics make the page better since the invisible backgrounds on the pictures make it look as if the pictures were always meant to be on the page and were made especially for it.

A nice Java menu on the side of the page will direct you to the other parts of the site including the daytime, primetime and kidzone parts. The page shows what is playing on CBS and isn't set up as much for surfing purposes.

And finally, here's a look at www.fox.com. This site seems to be much better than all the other TV sites with the exception of YTV. (I know, I'm a child at heart).

Not only does Fox set up its Web site with the TV station but it has specific pages on all the movies coming out and ones that are out at the moment.

It also has pages on new Fox videos.

Although it is more informative than anything else, the site has excellent graphics and interesting pages, including the King of the Hill page and the X-Files page.

It seems television Web pages just don't make the cut, unless they are created for children and have games and great graphics to enhance their site.

When the Web Wizard is wandering, he wanders to the wonderful world of children.

Information Age here

By KEVIN MCKEE
Staff Writer

Can you feel it?

We are on the eve of a great discovery.

Society is about to change. With the Information Age reaching its peak, people are finding themselves with more leisure time, meaning more time for themselves.

Sales are up in the bookstores for spiritual books such as *The Celestine Prophecy* and *Chicken Soup for the Soul.*

People are looking to fill the void the Information Age has brought.

People are finally taking a long hard look at themselves. No longer is society as quick to pull the trigger or drop the bomb.

Society is breaking the chains of ignorance and uniting in a common goal to educate and prevent a world of violence.

The Internet is an essential tool for educating. Martin Luther would be proud of this moment in history because he could have used the Internet during the Protestant revolution. It would have made his life a lot easier.

Remember, knowledge is true power.

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Niagara wins

By MARK RIEHL
Staff Writer

The Niagara College Knights men's volleyball team played its first regular season game defeating the Cambrian College Golden Shield team of Sudbury 3-1 (15-6, 14-16, 15-10, 15-11) in the best of five series at home Saturday night, Nov. 15.

The game started with a smash when Niagara's Stacey Kay opened with the team's first kill leading the Knights to take the first set 15-6.

The Knights looked as though they would win their second set convincingly when they quickly took a 14-6 lead. Cambrian gained possession of the ball with a timely block. Ten straight serves by Donald Davidson gave Cambrian the set 16-14.

"I was trying my best to serve to their team's weakest players," said Davidson.

"We are an emotionally unbalanced team right now," said team captain Kerby Bentley. "We were up 14-6 and we failed to push and seemed almost scared to win."

Bentley was named player of the game with 12 kills, 6 blocks and 4 serve aces.

"We were up and we lost," said Knights' head coach Blair Cudmore. "That's not a sign of a team that's going anywhere. They need to get down and start playing with some heart rather than speaking their minds and yelling at each other."

The next two sets were back and forth matches but Niagara prevailed, winning 15-10 and 15-11 to defeat the Golden Shield in the best of five sets.

"It was disappointing to drive up here for six hours to play like we did," said Cambrian coach James Schweyer. "Niagara played very well and they're a very big team and a great blocking team."

"Even though we won I was very disappointed in our play and I would have liked to have seen a much better effort with everyone contributing," said Cudmore.

The Knights' next regular season game is at Niagara on Nov. 22 at 4 p.m. against Humber College of Etobicoke.

Knights set to ignite

By ANDREA FLINDALL
Staff Writer

Pass, set, spike. And again. And again.

LIANA COLLINS

Niagara College's women's varsity volleyball team was back in action on Nov. 8 at Trent University in Peterborough.

After a break and two cancelled games, the team played eight matches, winning one against Barrie's Georgian College.

"The team showed what we can do," said Liana Collins, 20, a first-year Recreation and Leisure Services program student and power hitter on the team. "We are still getting used to each other and are trying to pull it together as a team."

Collins said she feels the "team is gaining respect for the fact we will do well. Everyone just has to put the fire in their eyes."

The team is hoping to win eight of 12 regular season games and make it to the playoffs.

Niagara opens its regular season at home Nov. 22 against Sarnia's Lambton College at 2 p.m.

Blocking the spike

Corey McKeown smashes the ball into the hands of a Cambrian Golden Shield player during the Knights' game opener win 3-1 in a best of five sets on Nov. 15.

Photo by Mark Riehl

Knights crush Sault College in season-opening blow-out

By DAN DAKIN
Staff Writer

Add one to the team's win column.

The Niagara Knights men's basketball team began its regular season with a 98-59 victory at home over the Sault College Cougars on Nov. 14.

Niagara started the game with a strong offensive drive, scoring 17 unanswered points in the first six minutes.

Forward Tyler Lillepool opened the Cougars' scoring by sinking a three-point shot. He went on to lead Sault College's offence with 20 points in the game.

By the end of the first half, the Knights were winning 51-26 with guards Steve Dever and Mike George leading the scoring with 12 points each.

The start of the second half was nearly the same as the first with the Knights scoring 19 points to the Cougars' 3.

Although Lillepool and forward Russ Croft combined for 22 points in the half, Sault College once again couldn't stop Niagara's Dever and George.

Dever, who was named the Versa Foods player of the game, led the way with another 10 points in the half.

"We played with a lot of intensity," said Knights head coach Jeff MacDonald. "Our defence executed well and so did our offence."

Cougars head coach Terry Littlefield said the loss was the result of a lack of support on the bench.

"We're down to eight players," he said. "Four players have quit in less than two weeks because of social and academic reasons."

Littlefield said there are not many high schools in the college's area, so talented players are not easy to find.

Niagara guard Mike Harris said the Knights won because they were simply a "far superior team."

For the Knights' former head coach Randy Conlon, it was the first time watching the team play since he resigned two weeks ago.

"It's hard to bite your tongue," he said. "Once you're a coach, you're always a coach."

Conlon, who recruited many of the 12 players on the team, said he wanted to come out and support them.

"Look at all that talent out there," said a smiling Conlon as he watched the team practice at half-time. "Jeff (MacDonald) is doing a great job."

The Knights' next regular season game is tonight against London's Fanshawe College. It starts at 8 p.m. in the Welland campus gymnasium.

SPORTS

Marcus O'Connor, a first-year Journalism-Print program student at Niagara College, drives for the net during the Knights' 71-70 victory over Medaille College.

Photo by Mark Riehl

Coach praises team win

By MARK RIEHL
Staff Writer

It was a battle all the way to the end.

The Niagara College Knights men's basketball team won its second game in as many nights when the team battled to a 71-70 win over the Medaille College Mavericks in an exhibition game at home Saturday afternoon, Nov. 15.

The Knights were slow out of the blocks at the start of this game, never taking the lead in the first half of play. Steve Dever led Niagara with 10 first-half points but it wasn't enough for the 42-30 deficit at the half.

"Here is the time to step it up and this is our chance to prove we're a good team," said Knights' head coach Jeff MacDonald at the half. "To prove we're a good team we need to come from behind and win this game. Then we may become a great team."

The Knights came out hard in the second half but never really turned it on until late in the game. With 1:20 remaining in the game Mike George stormed the net laying one up for two points. This basket gave the Knights its first lead in the game, 68-66.

Medaille re-tied the game and with 49 seconds remaining, George, of Niagara, drove the lane, sinking the jumper and was fouled on the play. He hit the foul shot and gave Niagara a 71-68 lead.

With 4.8 seconds remaining in the game the Mavericks' gained possession of the ball in Niagara territory with the score 71-70.

MacDonald said his main concern was putting double coverage on Hunt of the Mavericks, who led the scoring on his team with 30 points for the afternoon.

"I had some butterflies in my stomach but our defence stopped them, giving us the game," said a smiling Mike Harris.

With his late scoring drives, George was named player of the game. He led the scoring on the team with 19 points. The Niagara guard said the team won because "we worked hard."

"It was a great game and Niagara has a competitive team and they did a nice job out there," said Rich Jacob, head coach of the Mavericks.

Medaille is a small-college team which is ranked number one in Buffalo, N.Y. right now.

"Beating them is a tremendous victory and this is a great roll going into the season," said MacDonald.

The Knights' next regular season home game is at 8 tonight against Fanshawe College.

Flindall leads team to victory

By MARK RIEHL
Staff Writer

The Niagara College women's basketball team ended its last preseason game with a 51-37 win over Medaille College of Buffalo, N.Y., at home on Nov. 15.

The Knights started by scoring the first two baskets in the game but ended the second half with a 20-20 tie.

"We picked it up in the second half. The first half was very sloppy," said Niagara Knights' head coach Tara Petrachenko.

The Knights' Kristin Flindall was named player of the game, scoring 15 points.

"I guess we were kind of nervous in the first half because it was our first home game, but it was a good game," she said.

The other leading scorers for Niagara College were Kristin Davies with 11 points, Trinity Smith with nine points and Andrea Flindall with eight points.

Jen Ratka led the Mavericks with 10 points in a losing cause.

"I'm just happy we won the game and it's a good kickoff to win here at home before we begin the regular season," said coach Petrachenko.

The Knights' first home game will be against Fanshawe College at 6 p.m. in the gymnasium at the Welland campus.

New York Marathon thrilling

By CHER CIRILLO
Staff Writer

A New Year's resolution is finally accomplished.

Almost a year ago on Jan. 1, my New Year's resolution was to participate and complete the New York City Marathon, a 26.2 mile run. It's something I had never done before.

The farthest I had ever run before the marathon was 15 kilometres.

I asked myself why I would ever do something like this, and I can't think of a good enough reason, except that now it's over — it's one of my greatest accomplishments.

I trained for 11 months, beginning in January. I trained on a schedule that my friend's father had given me. He also ran the marathon.

After the very long training period ended, I was ready to run the marathon, or so I thought.

On Friday, Oct. 31, I left for New York City to begin what I thought would be one of the greatest weekends in my life.

Once in New York, I had to pick up a package that included my running numbers as well as a couple of extra treats.

The day before the actual race was the International Friendship Run.

This run began at the United Nations and the runners jogged following their country's flag to Central Park.

After that run was finished, I was invited to an international breakfast where I could talk with the other runners; see where they were from and hear what they thought about the events that were taking place.

The day was here. It was Sunday, Nov. 2. I got up at 5:30 a.m. to get ready. We caught the 6:30 a.m. bus around the corner from our hotel and drive about 25 minutes to Staten Island.

The actual run doesn't get started until 10:40 a.m. so you have plenty of time to mingle with other runners.

At 10:30 a.m. the runners are lining up in their designated start positions, and still the nerves haven't set in yet.

The cannon goes off and the runners begin their long journey.

The race starts on the Staten Island side of the Verrazano-Narrows Bridge (the world's longest suspension bridge) and begins on an uphill. I didn't get much of a chance to sightsee during the race, but I can say that I've seen almost all of New York City.

The course was designed so the runners run through the five boroughs of New York — Staten Island, Brooklyn, Queens, Manhattan and The Bronx.

More than 40 musical bands lined the marathon course to help entertain the spectators and keep the runners going.

The first 14 miles of the race went rather smoothly, but after that it was almost all downhill (I don't mean actual hills).

The crowds were great. Just when I was about to give up, they encouraged me to keep going and reminded me that I'd made it this far.

My adrenaline and the crowds kept me running for the first half. After that, my legs seem to have an extra 20 pounds attached to them.

After 26.2 miles, my legs are heavy and I don't want to move but I have finished the race. The finishers are rewarded with a medal, the cheers from the crowd, and best of all — a sense of accomplishment.

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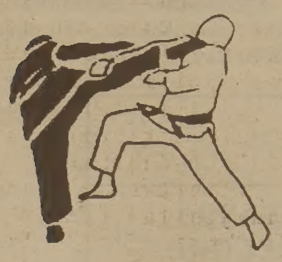
Students kicking their way to France

By DAN DAKIN
Staff Writer

Two Niagara College students have won spots on the Canadian national ju-jitsu team.

Derek Poirier, a 17-year-old Law and Security Administration program student from Welland, started the sport when he was 10. These days he is practicing three hours a day at the Black Panther club owned by his father Marcel.



Poirier said the practice is worth it because the competition at the international level is "extremely tough."

The entire Poirier family is involved in ju-jitsu. Derek, his brother and his father are all black belts while his mother is working toward it.

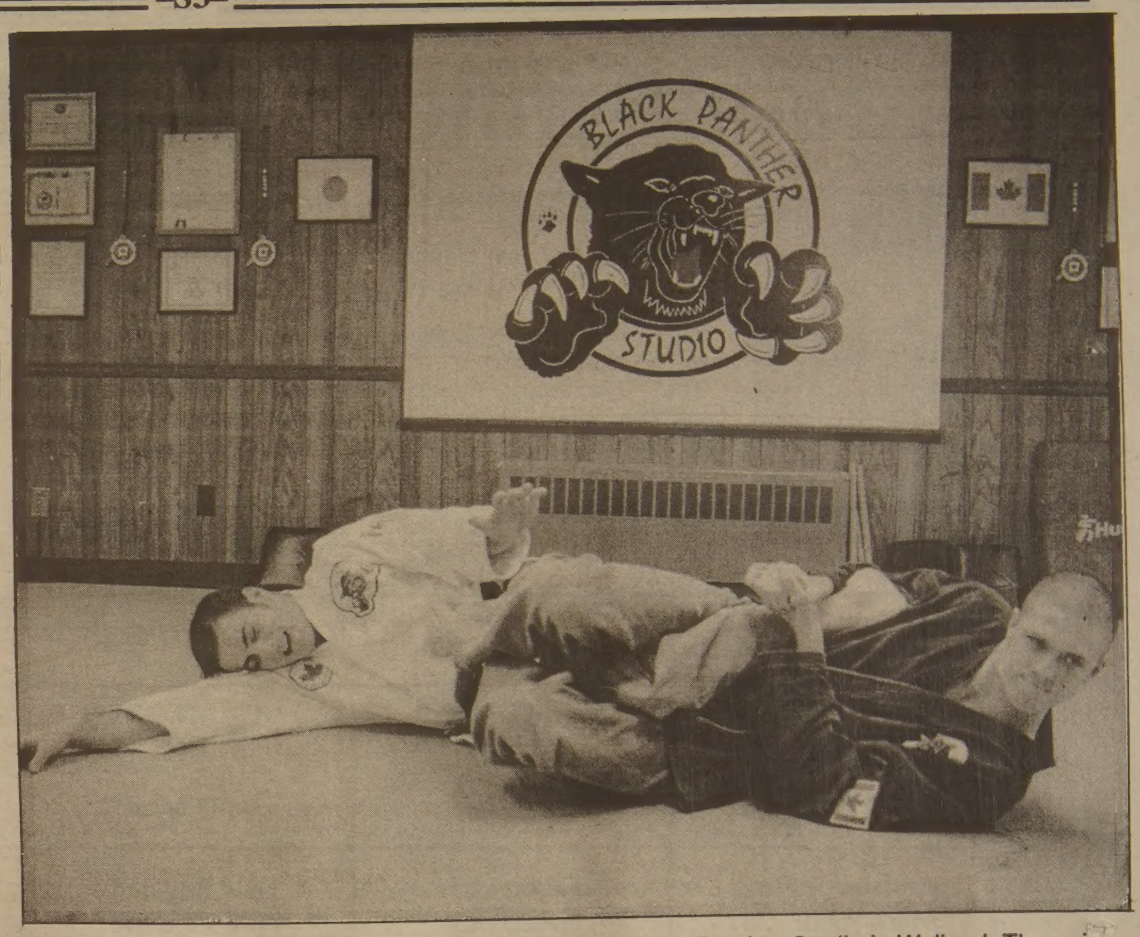
The second Niagara student going to the national team is 21-year-old Matthew Rocca, a General Arts-Health Science Prep program student also from Welland.

Rocca said he started ju-jitsu when he was nine after a friend started in the sport. His experience has taken him as far away as Australia where he fought in that country's version of the Ultimate Fighting Championships.

"Every club has its own system and theory," said Rocca. "Ours is extreme fighting."

The pair will be heading to France in May to compete in an international tournament.

"They've been working really hard at it," said Marcel. "I think I was more excited than they were."



Matthew Rocca, left, spars with Derek Poirier at the Black Panther Studio in Welland. The pair will be heading to an international ju-jitsu tournament in May.

Photo by Dan Dakin

Rugby players 'got their feet wet' in first-year play

By KERRI WOOD
Staff Writer

The season is over for the Niagara College's men's rugby team. Although the team was defeated in every game this season, the players are optimistic about playing next year.

Although winless, the Knights' first season was considered successful by the players.

For a while, it was uncertain whether or not there would even be a team.

"We had one hell of a year," said Kris Parkinson, 21, of St. Catharines, a second-year Law and Security Administration (LASA) program student.

After only a few practices together, the team played an exhibition game against a university varsity team.

Niagara played its first game on Oct. 8 against Brock University's Badgers in St. Catharines.

The Badgers defeated the Knights 74-6.

The team's coach for the season was Joe Ventresca, club president of the Niagara Wasps, a club rugby team in Port Colborne.

Ventresca, 45, of Welland, said a "new team is going to have a hard time getting it going."

Ventresca said that the team tried its best and "the guys got their feet wet."

The Knights played two tournaments this season.

The team's first tournament was Oct. 18 in Lindsay, Ont.

Niagara lost both games in the tournament. Although it was a close game, Georgian College's Grizzlies from Barrie defeated the Knights 15-10.

'The guys got their feet wet'
—Joe Ventresca

Sir Sandford Fleming's Auks, from the college's Lindsay campus, defeated the Knights 36-11.

"I think that the team played really well because they came together on such short notice," said Reg Dent, 18, of Welland, a second-year Recreation and Leisure Services program student. "Everyone worked really hard to get the team ready for the tournaments."

The team played its second tournament on Oct. 25 in Barrie, Ont.

The Knights were defeated in both games at that tournament. Sir Sandford Fleming's Auks, from the college's Lindsay campus, defeated Niagara 27-0. In the second game, the Georgian College Grizzlies defeated Niagara 26-9.

"In a matter of two months, we went from being 15 players from different places and with different styles to being one team," said Steve McIntyre, 21, of Welland, a second-year LASA program student.

"It was fun," said Dan Masotti, 19, of Welland, a second-year Broadcasting Radio, Television and Film (BRTF) program student. "We'll be more experienced next year," said Masotti.

"We want to play more now that we know how to play," said Ryan Watt, 21, of Welland, a second-year BRTF program student.

"It worked out well, making a team," said Watt. "We had enough players. It worked out really well."

"We're all good friends," said Masotti. "It's a good way to meet people. Everybody came together."

Heavy schedules for Knights

It's a busy couple of weeks for the Knights.

The four major sport teams at the college have begun their regular season and will be playing during the next two weeks.

The men's basketball team plays tonight at home against the Fanshawe College Falcons, in Ancaster against the Redeemer College Royals on Nov. 26 and in an exhibition tournament in Buffalo on Nov. 29 and 30.

The women's basketball team plays four home games in a row starting with a game tonight against the Fanshawe College Falcons. They move on to play the Mercyhurst College Mountaineers in an exhibition game on Sunday, a regular season game against the Durham College Lords on Nov. 28 and an exhibition game against Niagara County Community College on Nov. 29.

The men's volleyball team plays at home tomorrow against the Humber College Hawks, in Barrie against the Georgian College Grizzlies on Nov. 26 and at home against the Mohawk College Mountaineers on Nov. 29.

The women's volleyball team plays at home tomorrow against the Lambton College Lions, in Barrie against the Georgian College Grizzlies in an exhibition game on Nov. 26, against the Mohawk College Mountaineers at home on Nov. 29 and in Brampton against the Sheridan College Bruins on Dec. 4.

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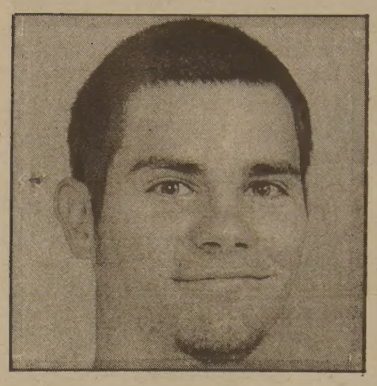
NFL re-alignment should be the next step



By DAVE CONROY
Staff Writer

I think the National Football League (NFL) flunked geography in high school.

Take a look at the NFL alignment and you'll see why.

The National Football Conference (NFC) West includes Atlanta, New Orleans, San Francisco, Carolina and St. Louis. Clearly four of these teams do not belong in the Western division. Only one does — San Francisco, which is on the west coast.

How could this possibly happen?

Does the NFL commissioner have his directions mixed up?

Some of the other mixed-up places on the NFL's map include Tampa Bay in the NFC Central, Arizona in the NFC East, and Indianapolis in the American Football Conference East.

In a sport with athletes being paid millions of dollars, you'd figure the NFL would fix the alignment of divisions so that expensive travel problems would be solved.

If the NFL alignment made any geographical sense, it might look something like this:

Possible NFL alignment

AFC East — Miami, Jacksonville, Buffalo, N.Y. Jets, New England.

AFC Central — Pittsburgh, Indianapolis, Baltimore, Cincinnati, Tennessee.

AFC West — Kansas City, Denver, Oakland, San Diego, Seattle.

NFC East — N.Y. Giants, Philadelphia, Washington, Carolina, Tampa Bay.

NFC Central — Chicago, Atlanta, New Orleans, Detroit, St. Louis.

NFC West — Arizona, San Francisco, Dallas, Minnesota, Green Bay.

Every Niagara News issue, the sports department will pick winners for two Sunday football games as well as for the Monday Night game. The writers' season right/wrong record will also be published.

The Niagara News' football follies

	GAME ONE Dallas at Green Bay	GAME TWO Miami at New England	MONDAY NIGHT Oakland at Denver	SEASON RECORD Right	Wrong
Andrew Jeffrey	Green Bay	New England	Denver	5	4
Mark Riehl	Green Bay	New England	Denver	3	6
Kerri Wood	Green Bay	New England	Oakland	7	2
John Pear	Green Bay	New England	Denver	6	3
Dan Dakin	Dallas	Miami	Denver	2	7
Ian Anderson	Dallas	Miami	Oakland	6	3

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HOROSCOPE

Taurus beware, not all are laughing

By RACHEL LEECH
Staff Writer

Aries (March 21 to April 19) — Know your boundaries. A little flirting never hurt anyone. Just know when to stop. Be sure not to go too far or it may no longer be considered flirting. A certain Pisces may be getting on your nerves. Smile and nod.

Taurus (April 20 to May 20) — You're a joker at heart and it really shows this month. Not everyone may agree with you. Be wary of your actions. An easily offended Libran may be deeply hurt.

Gemini (May 21 to June 20) — Your mystery stalker is revealed. Approach the person with tact. You should be flattered by their interest in you. Listen to your heart this month, it seldom will lead you astray.

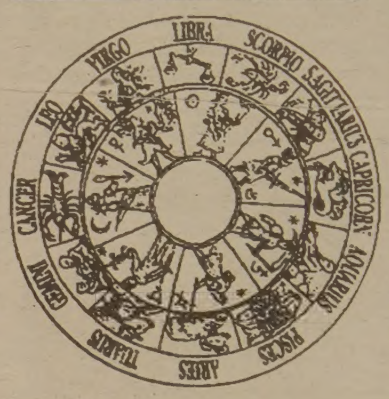
Cancer (June 21 to July 22) — All is well in Cancer land. Your days will be filled with excitement and your nights will be filled with entertainment. Enjoy the easy life while it lasts.

Leo (July 23 to Aug. 22) — Your spirits may be dampened by some unpleasant news this month. Someone close to you may be in desperate need of your counsel. There is nothing wrong with offering some personal advice, but be sure you know what you're talking about before you steer them wrong.

Virgo (Aug. 23 to Sept. 22) — You feel replenished this month. With that newfound energy do something constructive. Some winter activities may be just what you've been needing. Get out of the house and bask in the winter wonderland.

Libra (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) — You may be ready to deck the halls and start some Christmas shopping. Know what's in the bank. You may have less money than you thought. Avoid an embarrassing situation at the mall by being aware of your funds.

Scorpio (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) — That special someone has great plans in mind for the holidays. A romantic night alone may be just what you need. Don't make any plans. A scheduling conflict may occur causing some hurt feelings.



Sagittarius (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) — Deck the halls and the walls. It's time to pull out the Christmas tree and all the decorations to go with it. You may be disappointed by your helpers' lack of enthusiasm. Not everyone is a Christmas critter like you.

Capricorn (Dec. 22 to Jan. 19) — Cuddle up with a loved one by a roaring fire. The flames may also be in the heart of an admiring Leo. A row of suitors is good for the self-esteem. However, be sure you're not leading anyone on. Hurt feelings are not a pleasant thing.

Aquarius (Jan. 20 to Feb. 18) — Family, family, family. It's time to get back into the family circle. Spend some time with the little ones. Help them build a snowman or woman for that matter. The winter wind will leave you flushed and ready for some steamy hot chocolate.

Pisces (Feb. 19 to March 20) — Be yourself. Everyone will find you much more appealing if you throw out all of your masks. A certain friend may have the right idea. Stick to one personality as opposed to your usual 50. Let your hair down with your friends and your nights of partying will be a lot more pleasing.

For entertainment purposes only.

Timelines

By KEVIN HARDING
Staff Writer

• On this day in 1953, American pilot Albert Scott Crossfield Jr. became the first man to fly at Mach II.

• On this day in 1972, Muhammad Ali was bloodied during a boxing match for the first time in his professional career. Ali suffered a bloody nose and a cut under his left eye before his eighth-round knockout of Bob Foster in Stateline, Nevada.

• On this day in 1980, 84 people were killed and another 500 were injured in a fire at the MGM Grand Hotel in Las Vegas, Nevada. U.S. Army helicopters were used to rescue some of the 3,500 guests and employees of the hotel until it was ascertained that the helicopters were fanning the flames.

• On this day in 1986, American President Ronald Reagan met with Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev at a summit in Geneva, Switzerland. The key to the disagreement between the two men was Reagan's insistence on the development of a space-based weapons system known as "Star Wars."

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It's beginning to look a lot like Christmas, students prepare poinsettias for sale

Chris Fairen, 21, a second-year student, Brian Rutherford, 19, a first-year student, and Jake Snieder, 20, a first-year student, all of the Horticultural Technician (Co-op) program, pose in the back. Andrea Thompson, 19, a first-year student, and Trisha Romanowski, 18, a first-year Horticultural Technician (Co-op) student, care for the poinsettias in front.

Photo by Sharon Whaling

Principals visit updated facility

By TINEKE BRUINSMA
Staff Writer

Eighteen Indonesian principals visiting Niagara College to study tourism learned that "bugs are permitted" when touring the Horticultural Centre in St. Catharines on Nov. 19.

The principals were divided into two groups and received an extensive and informative tour. The tours were led by Tom Ball, co-ordinator of the centre, and Jim Thomson, who teaches practical horticulture at the college.

The principals took a tour of each greenhouse and were told what the individual greenhouses were used for.

Prior to the tour, Ball informed the principals about the campus' upcoming move to the new Glendale campus.

"We are getting a more up-to-date facility," said Ball, "We are presently preparing to move to the new campus. One problem we have when we move next year, like when anyone moves, is the question of will the customers move with us."

Damian Goulbourne, a co-ordinator of the Indonesian visit, said the morning before the tour the principals were discussing marketing in a classroom setting. They were taught the four Ps of marketing.

The tour of the Horticultural Centre brought the four Ps into action when Ball and Thomson discussed the importance of the public seeing the process by which plants are grown and the final product.

"We cannot sacrifice quality. We have to grow a good quality product," said Ball. "We must produce a product of the same quality as the industry."

He also said that the industry and the school have an understanding that the Horticultural Centre is not a threat to them.

Throughout the tour, the principals were encouraged to ask questions. Many of the questions were in regard to what plants were being grown and how the customer can purchase these plants.

Ball said the centre has one major show a year, which takes place in the third week of March. The show consists of demonstrations for the public and the students put up displays.

"The students gussy the place up for this," said Ball.

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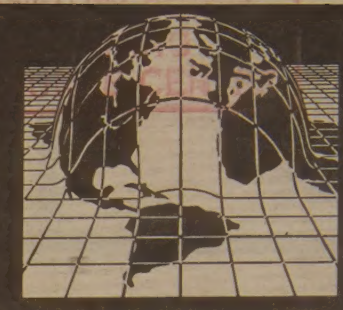

By TINEKE BRUINSMA
Staff Writer

Internationalization is an asset at Niagara College.

The college's International Department is a major source of culture at Niagara. The department offers students from abroad a chance to study English and study post-secondary and post-diploma programs.

The students live with host families and live the life of a Niagara College student.

The department is managed by Jos Nolle and the students have an adviser, Sean Coote. These two men play an integral part in the lives of the students during their stay in Canada.

Along with the staff in the department and the faculty at the college, the students receive a Canadian education. They live with host families to make them feel safe and comfortable while in Canada.

The students at Niagara come from 14 countries throughout the world. There are 100 students in the program. The students are involved in all aspects of college life, including sports and social activities.

Canadian students can learn many cross-cultural lessons from international students by becoming involved with them in sporting, social and classroom activities.

The college welcomes these students with hopes their years here are everything they expect and more.

INTERNATIONAL

Six years of International Education history

By JENNIFER COTE
Staff Writer

Niagara College's International Education department began six years ago.

Its first manager, Dennis Malone, was the co-ordinator of the English department.

Jos Nolle, 41, current manager of the department, is the second manager the department has had since its inception.

Of Malone and the beginning of International Education, Nolle said, "He thought of setting up ESL (English as Second Language) for international students. He was just the sort of person who picked it up and carried it for the first three years. Then he left and a half year later I came."

The department, which began by only offering ESL courses, now assists 100 students.

JOS NOLLE

"(ESL is now) like a feeder function to international education. Now we're more focused on promoting some of our programs at Niagara College," he said.

Nolle actively promotes about 10 of the college's programs, ones that are "the most interesting for the international students."

Tourism and Hospitality, Office Administration, Journalism-Print, and all computer and environmental programs are the main programs taken by international students.

At the International Education office, students get "customized academic counselling" from the staff, including their own student adviser.

Once an international student decides to come study at Niagara, the International Education department sends the student a package regarding how to get a visa. The visa enables the student to legally study in Canada.

A home-stay family is arranged by the college to host the student, and help the student feel safe.

A representative from International Education picks up the student at the airport and helps the student through immigration. Health insurance and a bank account are also arranged.

'Exposure (to international communication) could come from all different ways. It could come from having international students in your classroom... (but) you have to get them out of their shell.'
—Jos Nolle

Nolle said he is hoping to increase his department's revenue for the college, and to increase enrolment from 100 students to 200 students.

He said his biggest hope is to encourage college programs to become more internationally oriented.

"Canadians need more of an international attitude," Nolle insists.

"Exposure (to international communication) could come from all different ways. It could come from having international students in your classroom . . . (but) you have to get them out of their shell."

Nolle said he is aware of the "challenge" internationalization of the college presents because "the majority of teachers are from 15 to 20 years ago and I sense they're very set in their ways."

"I hope with internationalization to bring some fresh ideas out," he said.

Any questions?

Indonesian principals receive a tour of Queen's Park, during their visit on Nov. 10.
Photo by Tineke Bruinsma

Front cover photo, international students show their Canadian pride, Hiroyuki Murakami, Jayoung Koh, Hea Hee Yeom, Jong-Sik Park, Toshihiro Nakashima, Ryuchi Yano, Michiyo Nakao (in no particular order).
Photo by Sharon Whaling

Depending on how you change yourself

By MINAKO YAMAGUCHI
Staff Writer

Studying abroad means stepping up to your dreams, but it can't mean giving you adventures and making changes in your life.

I have met many international students since I came to Canada. I always enjoy talking with them and learning something new about other countries.

Now, as a reporter, I am quite interested in asking them why they came to Canada for all their answers are, of course, different.

However, some are not occasionally what I expect them to be, such as this: "I escaped from reality in my country and wanted to have fun."

Ironically, people who give that answer have left Canada earlier than they had planned to because they faced difficulties. Those difficulties could have been avoided if they had known about how things basically work in Canada.

I think it is important to enjoy your time in Canada, but there is also a responsibility to respect the Canadian lifestyle.

Language, food, climate, customs, culture, history, politics, lifestyle and environment . . . many things are different.

In a word, these people didn't focus on the purpose of coming to Canada. Finally, they couldn't see any change in themselves although they expected one to happen.

They decide to leave Canada because they now realize how good their home country is and how disappointing Canada can be if you aren't open to what is here.

'Unless you're willing to try, nothing will help you to change, no matter where you head to.'

I don't want everyone to appreciate Canada in that way. It's not about Canada, but about how you change while you are here.

Sometimes circumstances prevent us from living our own ways. The environment might help you enjoy yourself, but it's up to you to change yourself.

Unless you are willing to try, nothing will help you to change yourself, no matter where you head to.

I believe it is not a good idea to come abroad just to look for new motivation or adventures.

Have I been a little strict? I am not saying you have to be strong. I just want all international students to step up to their goals if they come to Canada only to make their dreams come true.

I always hope that international study can provide opportunities to learn about other cultures or to know ourselves better.

INTERNATIONAL

Nolle has job to 'Internationalize' college

By JENNIFER COTE
Staff Writer

Jos Nolle is here to "internationalize" Niagara College.

Nolle, 41, is the manager of the International Education Department and has been since May 1995 when he "heard from a friend" the position was vacant.

Nolle said at the time he was "looking for a new work opportunity" and thought Niagara would be "a nice place" to start over.

He had been working overseas in Amsterdam, one of many countries in his international career.

Nolle attended the University of Delft in Holland for seven years, receiving a master's degree in industrial design engineering. Never actually working in the engineering field, Nolle's first job from university was as a marketer and seller for an aircraft company. He stayed in that position for five years, making more than $100,000 annually, then decided it was time to make "a drastic change."

He went to work making $10,000 annually for an organization called Doctors Without Borders/Medecins Sans Frontieres (DWB/MSF) as a non-medical co-ordinator.

"Because of my language skills, I was asked if I wanted to work in Mozambique near South Africa," said Nolle.

He worked there for three years during a civil war, helping to coordinate medical assistance to different parts of the country.

Next, Nolle married a Canadian woman, and they returned to Canada.

DWB/MSF invited Nolle to set up its Canadian branch in Toronto. He did this for three years, travelling throughout the country doing promotion, fund-raising and recruitment.

DWB/MSF then asked him to become its director of human resources for the Amsterdam offices. He and his wife ended up staying in Amsterdam for seven years.

"I never intended to do it that long, so after that it really was enough," said Nolle," I wanted to get into something a little less stressful. "We wanted to come back to Canada, and that's when I heard about the opening at Niagara."

'I absolutely do sell education' —Nolle

Nolle said he enjoys his internationally flavored work at the college and describes himself as a "salesperson" for the college.

"That sounds, for educators, always weird because they don't sell education, but I see that very differently. I absolutely do sell education and products of Niagara College at an international market. Basically, I try to attract students to come here."

Another part of Nolle's job is to secure international projects for the college where "we do training in other countries."

Niagara is involved with projects in nine countries.

A large part of Nolle's job is what he calls to "internationalize" the college.

"That means to stimulate program co-ordinators to include more international subjects in their programs, to stimulate Canadian students and staff to integrate more with our international students and to organize events that have an international character."

For the last year, he has also managed the ESL program for international students and is part of the college's Planning Team.

Nolle said one of the favorite aspects of the job is that it allows him to spend time with his wife and two young children: a girl, five years old and a boy, three years old. He said he enjoys being involved in and selling education.

"What I like least is that my task is a very commercial one," he said.

Although Nolle said he believes Niagara functions well, there is "friction" over his clients paying $9,000 to $10,000 a year tuition, yet not getting the specialized service they need from all staff and students.

"I guess I don't really like that because it's not fair to everybody."

On his rare off hours, Nolle said he is a busy man.

He said his "second job" is his two children, who he watches while his wife works nights at Casino Niagara in Niagara Falls.

An avid runner, Nolle completed the New York City marathon last year raising money for the DWB/MSF organization.

He is the president of the Welland Rotary Club. The club is involved with the Easter Seals and regional fund-raising.

Nolle is a part of a Junior Achievement program. He lectures to Grade 7 and 8 students about Canada and the global market.

Also, as a member of the board of directors for Street Kids International, he volunteers his time "dealing with street kids worldwide."

Jos Nolle, 41, is manager of the International Education Department.

Photo by Jennifer Cote

Niagara graduate draws in Asian students

By BARB GREGOR
Staff Writer

His job brings them from home to here and doesn't stop until they are home again.

Sean Coote, 24, student adviser for International Studies, has been helping international students at Niagara College for the last three years.

Coote, a graduate of the Business Management program at the college, was offered a job in International Studies as a summer co-op. He was told the students had English classes in the morning and he would take them out touring in the afternoon. Instead, it ended up as a summer of 70- to 80-hour work weeks. After graduation, he was offered the job of adviser.

Through his job, he helps students through the inquiry process, applications, arrivals and departures.

Students are found through marketing, mainly in Asia (Japan, Korea and Hong Kong). This is done through advertisements, companies and councils.

Coote left for Korea and Taiwan on Oct. 20 for 12 days of meetings with recruiters and companies and participation in education fairs. In Korea, he will see 5,000 to 10,000 potential students in two days.

Many of the students have at least two years of university or are university graduates.

Once a student has applied, Coote sends the student a letter of acceptance. These letters used to be sent by mail and took 10 to 12 days for students to receive them. After some problems with students not getting their letters, the department switched to a courier service and "has had fewer problems," says Coote.

Once the letter of acceptance is received, the student must go to the embassy for visas and then book a flight. This takes anywhere from three to six months.

On this end, Coote arranges a home stay match for the student. The main prerequisite for families to become home stays is they must have a separate room with a bed, dresser, closet and desk. They provide meals and there must be an involvement with the student.

Coote says he feels he is a pretty good judge of character. Home stays are not judged on their material wealth, but on how he thinks the student will be made welcome. "If I have the slightest doubt about a family, I won't use them."

English is the most difficult part of the program. "If they fail, it is because of English," he says.

The students get three levels of the languge which can be taken for a maximum of two years. The maximum time is required once in a while, but the average student completes this in one year or less.

Scattered around his office are knick-knacks he has received from students. "We give greeting cards to say thank you, but Asians give gifts with no cards." He takes the gifts home and displays them on a shelf.

What is the least favorite part of his job? "It has to be airport pickups," he says, adding airports are always busy at any time of day, especially in the last weeks of August. Some days he has 16 different pickups, sometimes three in one day.

After working eight hours, he has three or four pickups and another six on weekends. "You eat, sleep and breathe airports," he says, adding when a student is not on the flight he or she is supposed to be, the airlines offer little help. They won't even tell you if the student is on another flight, he says.

And what is the favorite part of his job? Would you believe airport pickups?

"You can't beat the sight of relief when the plane lands and your passenger is there," says Coote.

"You get to talk a lot when you are trapped in a car on that ride home. To know that you make them feel comfortable feels really good. You walk away with the impresson of another good student."

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INTERNATIONAL

Holiday has changed

Fu Wing Wang, 21, of Hong Kong, an English as a Second Language program student, stands in front of a scenic poster of Hong Kong, which was returned to China on July 1.

Photo by Minako Yamaguchi

By MINAKO YAMAGUCHI
Staff Writer

The July first holiday was not business as usual for the people of Hong Kong.

Fu Wing Wang, 21, of Hong Kong, came to Canada last August to attend the English as a Second Language (ESL) program at Niagara College.

Wang said his cousin, Ngai Hung Wong, told him about Canada.

"She came to Canada eight years ago and studied business management in Ontario."

He said he decided to come because Wong told him there is a lot of nature and "very nice" people in Canada.

Wang is one of the people who celebrated when Hong Kong was returned to China on July 1 from being a British colony.

Wang said July 1 is usually a national holiday in his country.

However, this year on July 1, a century and a part of British rule ended in Hong Kong and the territory has reverted to Chinese sovereignty.

"I went to my friend's house and watched a movie. In my family, we didn't have special dinner or a big party, but we were all happy about it."

He said there is not much difference than before.

"We still use Hong Kong currency. The government system did not change much."

Wang said the population of Hong Kong is 6.3 million and there are many high buildings.

"In my home town, Kowloon, there are many beautiful trees and flowers. We only have one warm season throughout the year," he said, adding he so far likes the weather in Welland.

Wang said he likes Niagara College, his host family and the friends he's met in Canada.

He said he wants to study business management after the ESL program.

"I would like to learn more languages because it will help my work in the future."

Making films can be risky

By MINAKO YAMAGUCHI
Staff Writer

Learning outside their home country is giving students more experiences than only studying at school.

Sung Chan Lee, 22, of Korea, says he "really" enjoys the Broadcasting-Radio, Television and Film (BRTF) program at Niagara College.

"I've learned a lot about how to produce films or how to run TV programs."

Lee says the program has been more practically focused since his second year started last September.

"Niagara College's BRTF program is pretty good because we can study three aspects of broadcasting: radio, television and film."

BRTF program students can study one of these beginning in their fourth term.

"I think I will choose the film or television course."

In June 1995, Lee came to Canada and studied the English as a Second Language (ESL) program at Niagara for one year.

After finishing the ESL program successfully, he entered the BRTF program in September 1996.

Lee says speaking English is still difficult but he is trying "very hard" and having "fun" in his program.

He says working in film can be "adventurous and risky" because it's not guaranteed students can get a good job or keep working in the field for a living.

"I think I like being busy . . . but I've got to be strong and healthy."

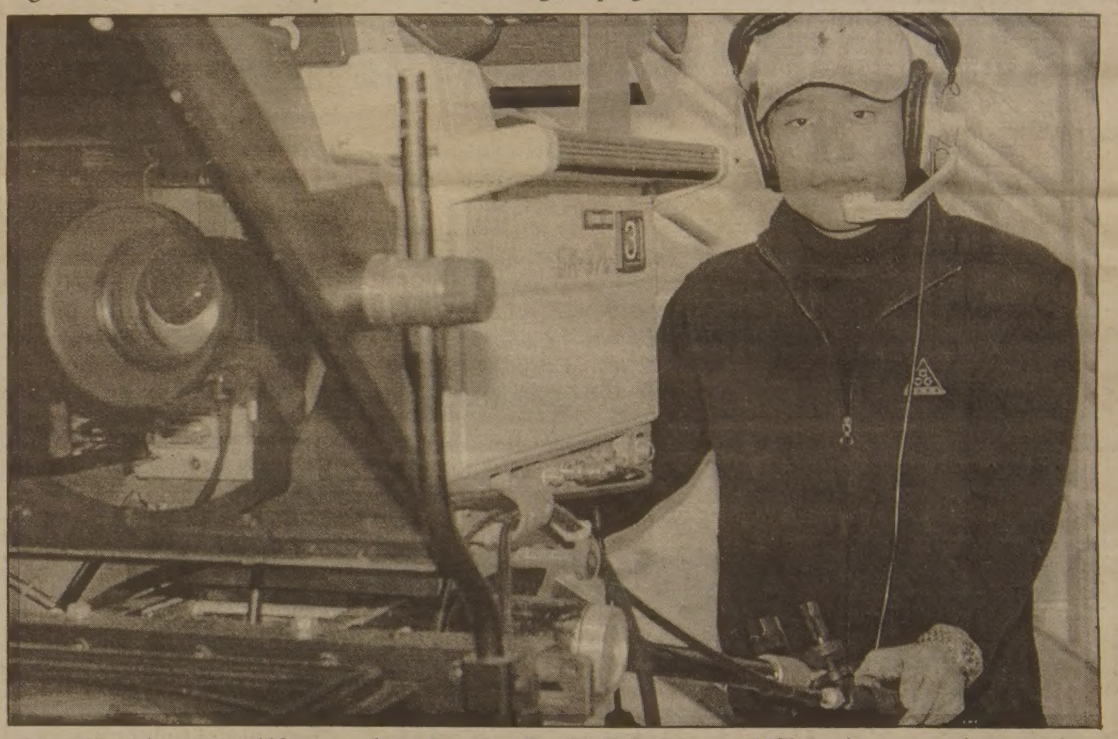
After finishing his program, he says he has to return to Korea because of his country's army service duty.

"If possible, before going back home, I want to get a job working in Canada for few years," says Lee, adding he wants to work for a television station in Toronto or a film company in Vancouver.

He says, in the future, he hopes he can work for an advertisement company where he would produce television commercials and eventually have his own company.

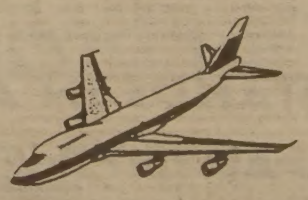
"I like to produce something, entertain people, and make film stories, especially horror movies."

He says he still has 1 1/2 more years for his BRTF program at Niagara College, but "I will always do my best."



Sung Chan Lee, 22, of Korea, a Broadcasting-Radio, Television and Film program student, sets a camera at the television studio in Niagara College's Welland campus.

Photo by Minako Yamaguchi



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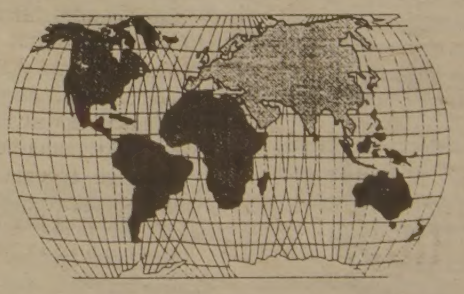


Number of International Students at Niagara College	
Post Secondary & Post-Graduate programs	57
English as a Second Language (ESL) program	43
Total	100

Where do our international students come from?

Country	# of students
Japan	37
South Korea	36
Taiwan	6
Hong Kong	5
Mexico	3
Libya	3
Saudi Arabia	2
Lebanon	2
Israel	1
Macedonia	1
Oman	1
Thailand	1
Venezuela	1
Yemen	1
Total	100

INTERNATIONAL

Canada 'home' to student

By TINEKE BRUINSMA
Staff Writer

Canada is a home away from home.

Fatahi Dagga, 34, of Libya, is an exchange student at Niagara College.

Dagga said even though it is only his third time in Canada, it seems like his second home.

"The people here are friendly. They try to help each other," he said.

He is taking the computer programming course and has been in Canada for the last four months. He said he hopes to stay for up to two years.

The Canadian Bureau of International Education (CBIE) helped Dagga find out about Niagara. They made the contacts with Niagara and help choose the applicants to the college.

Dagga said he had to apply to the CBIE and hear from them about the college and whether to apply.

"CBIE covers everything I need — insurance and a student visa."

Dagga lives in Welland and says living here is different from life in his home town Libya.

"Coming from Zliten is a little bit different. You get used to it though," he said, adding as long as you have something to do you have no problems. He said there is a lot to do in Canada but at times he feels sad.

Fatahi Dagga, 34, is an exchange student from Libya taking the Computer Programming program.
Photo by Tineke Bruinsma

"Everyone gets homesick."

He keeps in contact with those back home by telephone.

"I do not like to write letters."

He said he came to Canada to become more educated. He suggested he may get a job in the computer technology industry.

"Computers? You need to know them. It is the language of this era."

Asked about immersing himself into the Canadian way of life, he said he had travelled to Montreal and Toronto to visit friends.

"I like to travel. I know all parts of Ontario and Quebec," said Dagga.

Judging image unfair

By MINAKO YAMAGUCHI
Staff Writer

Do you agree with the idea that one's nationality affects one's character? That is possible, for a country's traditions can influence its people to a greater or lesser degree.

However, everyone is individually different no matter what country the person comes from.

"The person is from that country."

"The person looks different from North Americans."

Can you ever judge foreigners because of these reasons before talking with them?

If you do, I would like to take a stand on this.

I have met many great Canadian people and learned a lot about Canada. So, if I hear someone is not happy about Canadian people, I get upset.

Sadly, not all people I have met were nice, but I can say the same thing about people in not only my home country but also anywhere in the world.

You are free to like or dislike people, but you never have any right to discriminate among people based on the images you have of them based on their nationality.

'...if I hear someone is not happy about Canadian people, I get upset.'

Even people of the same nation hurt each other, so I think there is no end to arguing about discrimination.

However, I think it is time for all of us to realize how small the world has become and how important it is to understand each other and stand hand in hand together now.

Student aims to 'have fun'

By ANDREA FLINDALL
Staff Writer

For a man always on the run, Welland can be boring.

Joaquin Tena, 19, of Mexico, is in Canada studying English as a Second Language.
Photo by Andrea Flindall

Joaquin Tena, a 19-year-old English as a Second Language student, is in Welland for one term until December to try and improve his English.

Tena left his family in Mexico, including his 22-year-old sister who attends university there to "travel, have fun and improve English."

Other than the cold weather, Tena said he doesn't notice too many cultural differences. "The food is good, but at home it's better," he said with a laugh. "I can handle it."

Tena lives with his house parents in St. Catharines, who host exchange students.

For the past four years, Tena has spent his summers in Texas and Kansas for camps to learn proper English. Because of this, "the ESL program seems easy to him," he said, adding he enjoys all sports including baseball, soccer and basketball.

Dragon stands guard

Ornamental dragon at the Indonesian embassy in Toronto.
Photo by Tineke Bruinsma

INTERNATIONAL

England middle school just like convent

By CARLY ANDREWS
Staff Writer

"School is a vacation from the real world for some in Wales. For me, it feels like a nunnery."

Picture Beth, a 14-year-old secondary-education student in Pontyclun, a town just outside of Cardiff, in the region of Mid Glamorgan, Wales.

No, this is not a work of fiction, but a daily account of life at "middle school" in the United Kingdom.

Beth Giles, who is "embarrassed to mention the name of her school for fear of expulsion," says she enjoys her lessons in sciences, literature, fitness, and mathematics, although attending school for 10 months out of the year is "a waste of pep (energy)."

All schools in Great Britain are under the general supervision of three government departments: the Department of Education and Science for the schools in England and Wales, the Department of Education for the schools in Northern Ireland, and the Education Department for those in Scotland.

Mostly public funding supports education in Britain, except for central government expenditures on science and education, including university, which accounts for about nine per cent of the budget.

In England and Wales, school attendance is compulsory for those between the ages of five and 16. About 90 per cent of the elementary and secondary schools are organized and maintained by local education authorities and supported entirely by public funding. The other percentage are voluntary schools, provided and maintained by private organizations, usually religious or charitable.

Beth falls under the category of elementary and secondary schools. Like Canada's school system, there are publicly maintained schools in England and Wales. The independent or "private" schools have a lower enrolment rate depending on families' financial situations in the middle and upper classes of society. The transfer from elementary to secondary schools usually takes place at the age of 11.

As for Beth, she transferred to a new school last year, but she says it "wasn't quite a drastic change."

"The rules of the headmaster (principal) are a bit tighter as we are expected to be adults at this age," she says.

"We are expected to be in full uniform. Anything out of place and we are detained after classes.

"We are taught to be seen and not heard when in the presence of our elders.

"Our instructors can be pleasant at times but we understand they must follow a strict code of tradition when giving us extra assistance. Even then, we must arrange private tutorial sessions on our time and possibly during our six-week summer vacation," she says.

Wales occupies a broad peninsula on the west side of the island of Britain. Its area is 20,768 square kilometres, which is almost entirely mountainous. The people of Wales, as those of Great Britain, are descendants of various stocks, including Celts, Scandinavians and Romans.

Beth's fellow students have followed the bilingual education system of Wales since 1970. In some districts, instruction is given in Welsh, and English is taught as a second language.

"I don't embrace the fact that Wales is a part of Britain, but if I had to speak in Welsh every day and all day, I'd go mad," she says.

She cannot even spell the name of her secondary school because of its "thick Welsh title."

The principal institution of higher education is the University of Wales, established in 1893. It is composed of the University College of Wales in Aberystwyth, the University College of North Wales in Bangor, University College in Cardiff, Saint David's University College in Lampeter, the University College of Swansea, the University College of Medicine in Cardiff, and, finally, the University of Wales Institute of Science and Technology in Cardiff. The last two choices are on Beth's list of further education.

"The first good news is they're in Cardiff so I'd be close to home. Second, medicine and science are my favorites," she says.

"Sciences are so fascinating. Becoming a doctor for children in Wales will take quite a lot of my time but it's worth the effort," she says.

"If Mrs. Shelton, my math teacher, ever listened to me, I would bow down and kiss her feet," Beth laughs. "I might consider coming to Canada for university. I'd love it."

College student adviser visits education centre in Korea

By TINEKE BRUINSMA
Staff Writer

Education fairs do work, says Sean Coote, the international student adviser at Niagara College. He has just returned from a 13-day trip to Korea and Taiwan.

Coote said the trip went well, although he had a busy schedule. He visited education fairs in Korea and Taiwan. Most of his time was spent at the Korean Education Fair. He then moved to an education fair in Taiwan.

He said he spent seven days in Korea, three days in Taiwan and three days travelling.

"When you fly there you lose a day. When you come back you sort of gain a day."

In Korea, he visited a new Education Centre. The centre was established by the Canadian government and is near the Canadian embassy.

"The Education Centre is actually on the same floor as the Canadian embassy in Korea," he said, adding the centre is funded by foreign countries who pay the centre to provide Korean students with information about their schools.

Coote said the centre organizes the student authorizations that make studying abroad legal for students. There has been a significant increase in the number of applications for student authorizations.

"Last year, there were 800 applicants and this year there were 8,000. We hope this is due in part to the work the Education Centre has been doing."

He said the waiting period for the authorizations had been three to four months, but the period has gone down to a week. The reason for the waiting period is Canada's health care system.

"If they can get their visas in a shorter period of time, we will get more students."

The fair was a success, he said, except for one detail that was no fault of his Korean hosts. He said several schools from Canada had displays at the fair.

'The education centre is actually on the same floor as the Canadian embassy in Korea.'— Sean Coote

He was approached by another representative from Canada who asked him for a pamphlet, saying he wanted to see what the "competition" was doing.

"Our competition is not a school down the road, it is a broader competition than that, it is Australia and the U.K. (United Kingdom). If we can promote Canada as a country, we gain, not if we market against each other. The competition is around the world, not within our own country."

Coote said students are happier when they get here and the school and Niagara Region are exactly what they anticipate.

"Students are happy with the decisions they have made because they have been well informed before they come here."

Look back, pumpkin monster!

Niagara College's English as a Second Language program students visited the Howell Family Pumpkin Farm at 2878 Holland Rd. in Fonthill on Oct. 24. They bought pumpkins to carve for Halloween night.

Photo by Minako Yamaguchi

Possibilities galore

By TINEKE BRUINSMA
Staff Writer

It's more revenue for the Niagara Region.

Foreign students are doing their bit.

"International students bring business to the region," said Jos Nolle, manager of the International Education Department at Niagara College.

Nolle said international students bring in about $1 million to the college by way of tuition fees. The region receives the equivalent amount when the students buy clothing and food and pay for accommodations, he said.

"Students from the department become ambassadors for the Niagara Region when they return home from their stay in Ontario."

He said the students later become important contributors to the college as members of the alumni.

The department tries to give exposure of regional companies to its visitors, with the intent of sparking international interest.

Nolle said a group from Egypt had recently visited Mycom, a local plastics company.

"One of them was very interested in the company."

Alison Ortwein, the international projects co-ordinator, talked about a group visiting from Thailand and how they had become interested in a Canadian company.

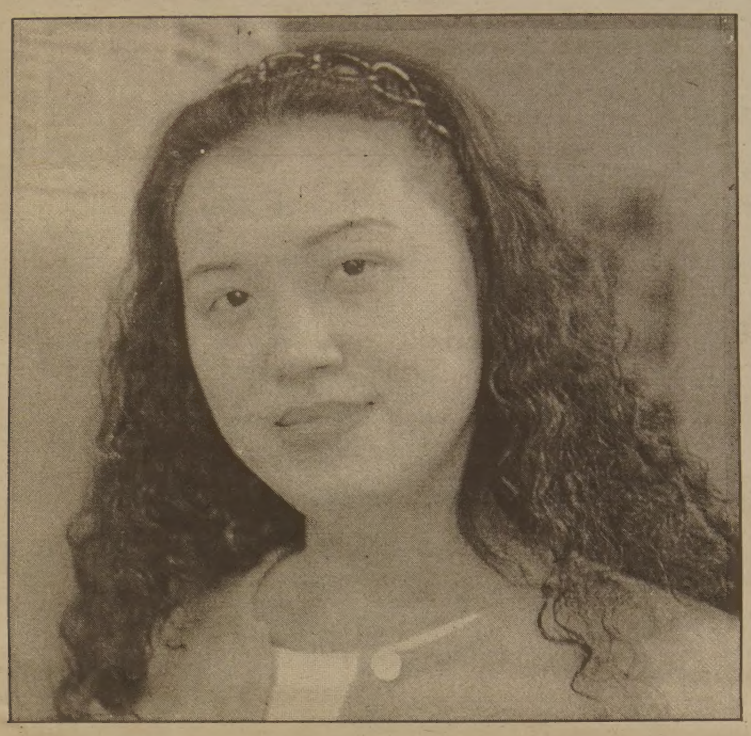
"It is an environmental consulting company in Toronto. A consultant came down to do a one day session with the visitors from Thailand," said Ortwein. "Now there is a possibilty of business for them in Thailand."

Nolle said the most important part of the program is that visitors have contact with Canadian students and faculty.

"Call it a learning opportunity. Opportunities are there — but are not used if students do not expose themselves to the international students," said Nolle.

INTERNATIONAL

ESL student 'satisfied' with program and teachers



By SHARON WHALING
Staff Writer

Independence and learning English motivates Eileen Jen from Taiwan.

Eileen Jen, 21, of Hsin Chu, a city in the north part of Taiwan, is studying her third level of the English as a Second Language (ESL) at the college and learned of the program through an agent.

As part of her third level in the program, she studies five core subjects.

Reading, writing, listening, oral communications and a computer class fill her curriculum.

She says she chose Niagara because a lot of people go to Vancouver, B.C., to study and she wanted to see what Ontario was like.

Jen has lived in Welland since May. She says she is "satisfied with the program" and hopes to continue her studies in another course after successfully getting the ESL certificate.

She had never visited Canada before, and had previously studied English in junior high school.

While in Ontario, she has experienced travelling to cities such as Kingston, Toronto and Montreal with international friends.

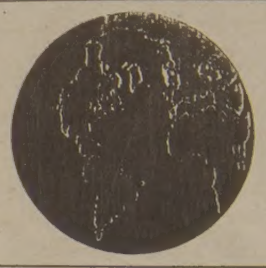
Before renting a house with four housemates, she lived with a host family for four months.

Asked about her likes and dislikes, Jen says, "I like the food here. I like to try different kinds of food.

"The tax is very expensive here. In Taiwan, when a price says $200, we pay $200. The price includes the country's tax which is five per cent."

All she brought with her were personal items.

Her plans for Christmas does not include going home. The cost of the 16-hour flight to her home is $900. She says, "we only have a two-week break, it's hardly worth it."



"I think I should be more independent for myself."

"I like to study English because if you can speak English, it's easier to find a job in Taiwan. English is the most important language in the world."

She says she enjoys her teachers and finds them "patient, friendly and knowledgeable."

Jen has one brother and parents at home, whom she "misses a lot."

Crime at its finest

By MICHELLE ADEY
Staff Writer

Louise is free!

The nine-month long roller coaster ride in which British au pair Louise Woodward, 19, had been on, is finally over.

At 3 p.m. on Nov. 10, Superior Court Judge Hiller B. Zobel reduced Woodward's recent second-degree murder conviction to involuntary manslaughter.

He then sentenced Woodward to 279 days served since her arrest last February in the death of eight-month-old Matthew Eappen, who died on Feb. 9.

"To keep the second-degree murder conviction would be a miscarriage of justice," the judge said at the resentencing, which was watched by television viewers throughout the world.

Across the Atlantic in her hometown of Elton, England, cheers rang out as supporters of the free Louise campaign began to celebrate with music and champagne.

Since the Oct. 30 conviction of Woodward, her supporters have been campaigning to have her murder conviction overturned.

As her supporters were celebrating, I sat on my couch and felt satisfied with most of the judge's decision.

Although I didn't follow the case as closely as I did the O.J. Simpson murder trial, I did somehow feel emotionally drawn to this young woman's murder trial. I came to conclude that justice had been served, even though it was American justice.

On Oct. 30 when she was originally found guilty of murder in the second-degree by a 12-member jury, I felt sad inside knowing this young woman, the same age as me, would be facing life in prison.

I agree with the judge's involuntary manslaughter conviction and feel that she was not directly responsible, as the evidence brought forward in the trial was weak.

Although I agree with the manslaughter conviction, I still feel she should have gotten at least two years in prison and not nine months.

Woodward will remain in Massachusetts until appeals from the prosecution and defense have been brought forward.

Woodward's defence team is appealing the manslaughter conviction and asking for an acquittal.

The internet site www.passports.com says EF Au Pair and Au Pair America are having "real trouble" signing up any more young British girls to come to America and that, that part of a very lucrative business has dried up.

Around the world and back

By TINEKE BRUINSMA
Staff Writer

Take a step forward and introduce yourself.

Having friends from other countries is a fun and cultural experience. In high school, many of us were exposed to international students through student exchanges. Now that we have moved onto college, we can still gain international exposure.

The International Education Department at Niagara College works hard to internationalize the student body. This year, the school has 100 international students from 14 different countries.

It has been my experience with these students that they are very willing to learn. They are also extremely interested in the lives of their Canadian friends. International students are students who want to learn English and gain new friends. If Niagara gives them the chance to learn, as students, we should give them the chance to gain new friendships.

Each day students walk down the halls of Niagara and pass by the International Education Department without giving it a second glance.

My suggestion to students is to stop and take a look around. Maybe even talk to a couple of the students. Although the first meeting is always awkward, you will be surprised as to how much you may have in common with someone who lives thousands of kilometres away.

Relaxed faces after school...

Yuri Ishikawa, 23, left, and Kyoko Nakagawa, 21, English as Second Language program students from Japan, are taking a break after classes at Niagara College's Welland campus.

Photo by Minako Yamaguchi

INTERNATIONAL

Au pair job an educational experience

Taking care of children

By MICHELLE ADEY
Staff Writer

Travel the world and earn money doing it!

Becoming an au pair can be an educational as well as personal growth experience.

Au pair is a French term meaning "on equal terms." Au pair also stands for an unusual solution to child care that involves a cultural exchange with foreign men and women ages 18 to 26 going to various countries on special visas.

To become an au pair, a person must be between the ages of 18 and 26, have a desire to work with children, speak fluently in English and take the required 32 hours of orientation training.

An au pair's duties include a 45-hour work week of taking care of children and doing light housecleaning.

Compensation to the au pair would be round-trip transportation, a $115 US a week salary, one weekend a month off, two weeks paid vacation and health insurance.

The cost of hiring an au pair for the host family would be $3,840 US to cover transportation, administration, a private bed and meals and $115 US weekly to the au pair.

'The kids were spoiled but the little girl was a princess.'
— Jessica Richards

Au Pair USA InterExchange is a non-profit organization that does pre-screening training and placement.

Jessica Richards, 20, of Caistor Centre, Ont., was an au pair in Saarland, Germany, last year.

Richards, who spent one year taking care of three children ages two to seven, said overall her experience was good but difficult at times.

"It was hard sometimes. The family wasn't very warm and were distant, partly because they have a different culture and respond differently. Overall it was a good experience and I learned about other cultures."

Richards' typical day would begin at 8 a.m. when she would take the dog for a walk. At 9 a.m. she would then begin the laundry.

"I had to do three to four loads a day. I would also clean up the two playrooms. I can't believe how messy they got so fast."

During the day she would take care of the youngest child, who is a girl, while the three and seven-year-old boys were at school.

"The kids were spoiled but the little girl was a princess."

Richards, who speaks fluently in German, took a language course in Germany which was paid for by her family.

Richards said she made about 100 German marks a week. She was invited to go along with the family on a two-week vacation to Portugal.

Richards became an au pair when she received information on the program from INTO Exchange Student Agency.

Innocent until proven guilty

Criminal point of view

By MICHELLE ADEY
Staff Writer

"A student is a student, no matter where they come from," said Brigitte Chiki, director of Access and Student Success at Niagara College.

If an international student commits a criminal act while attending the college, the procedures taken by the college's administration is no different than it would be if the student is a Canadian citizen.

The fact the person has a different citizenship does not exempt that person from a criminal act, said Sargeant Mark Carter, NRP public affairs officers.

"We would look at the crime from a criminal offence point of view," Carter said. "Most laws have a nucleus in moral conduct. The wording may be different, but the expectation level of what behavior is expected internationally is the same."

If the crime was of a serious nature, such as murder, the court system would deal with the situation.

"It is tricky to discipline a student before a criminal trial has occurred, said Chiki, adding if the person was a threat to the college she would have to consider expulsion from school.

"If the person is a threat to the college community I would have to take disciplinary action."

Carter said deporting a person would be dealt with by immigration officials, the RMCP and federal government.

Chiki and Carter said in the case of an international student committing a crime, the crime would be dealt with in a professional manner and no differently than with a Canadian citizen.

"In Canada, we believe you are innocent until proven guilty," Chiki said.

As far as Chiki can recall, there has never been an incident involving an international student.

Chiki said she would not be alone in handling such a matter.

"The college maintains a good relationship with the Niagara Regional Police (NRP)," she said. "They are very helpful. I would also receive help from the international department."

Indonesia remembers

By TINEKE BRUINSMA
Staff Writer

Hero's Day is a celebration of independence.

Nov. 10 marks Hero's Day on the Indonesian calendar. It is their version of Remembrance Day. Hero's Day is to celebrate the independence Indonesia gained in 1945.

This independence occurred when Japan lost power and the United States destroyed Hiroshima. The Indonesians put up their flags to replace the Dutch flags. The Dutch established colonies in Indonesia and when independence was gained the Indonesians put up their own flag above the Dutch flag.

"Each island is considered a country, with an individual monarchy and government," said Nenneng Dasmawati, an Indonesian principal visiting Niagara College.

"Hero's Day is a celebration for the heroes who fell in the fight of independence, the celebration (has been) held annually on Nov. 10 since 1945," said Ariti Saiman, vice consulate general in the Indonesian Embassy in Toronto.

The 18 Indonesian principals visiting Niagara College travelled to Toronto for Hero's Day celebrations. During the evening they had a ceremony involving songs, speeches, and prayers.

The men and women stood in rows and took orders to bow, to pray, to sing and to stand at attention. The orders were given by the "inspector." The rituals were followed by a meal of traditional Indonesian food.

Damian Goulbourne, trips co-ordinator for the Indonesian principals visiting Niagara College, joins the principals on the steps of the legislature on Nov. 10.

Photo by Tineke Bruinsma

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